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FEDERAL BUREAU

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INVESTIGATION

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100
354572SECTION 2
SERIALS 11 --

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KANSAS CITY**

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI	DATE WHEN MADE 2/28/52	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/29; 10/2; 11/15/51; 1/14, 15, 23, 28; 2/11/52	REPORT MADE BY STANLEY F. JOHNSON, JR. jc
TITLE OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject still resides on Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas, where he operates a farm. Continues association with and contributions to Kansas City Peace Committee, a Communist dominated affiliate of the American Peace Crusade. Subject indicates strong faith in Soviet Union in communication to a **GEORGE L. HOBRIGHT**, Berryville, Arkansas. Subject is described as an atheist, a person who believed in Socialism during his early youth, and one who accepted Communism at the time of the Soviet Revolution in Russia in 1919. Reportedly subject supports **JOSEPH STALIN**, Russian Premier, and the Communist Party although there is no clear indication of Communist Party membership. Subject is contacted by U. S. Committee Against Militarization, 6329 South May, Chicago, Illinois; **JOHN BASIL MADDY**, 2812 East 23rd Street, Oakland, California; **GUS HORACK**, Weissport, Pennsylvania; **EUGENE L. HOWARD**, 1716 Elwood, Muskegon, Michigan; and **KATHERINE FLYNN**, 224 East 12th Street, New York, New York.

- P -

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44 OCT 25 1962

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>L.V. Boardman</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPY IN FILE 5 - Bureau 65 MAR 25 1952 SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL	100-354572-11 RECORDED - 88 INDEXED - 88 EX-140

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-59255-1

KC 100-1717

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI; KANSAS CITY, KANSAS; SPRING HILL,
KANSAS

T-1, of unknown reliability, advised on January 15, 1952, that subject continues to reside on his farm at Spring Hill, Kansas. T-1 said subject has few visitors and does not associate with neighbors in the vicinity; however, in early October a red pickup truck was observed to have been parked at subject's house overnight.

T-2, of known reliability, advised a meeting of the Kansas City Peace Committee was undertaken at One West Linwood, Kansas City, Missouri, on September 6, 1951. The chief speaker at this meeting was VICTOR PERLO, who discussed the topic of American Foreign policy. PERLO is described as an author, economist, and public worker and as a government economist during the New Deal and war periods in the Commerce and Treasury Departments. PERLO reportedly is currently employed as a consultant to trade unions, consumer groups, and the Progressive Party. PERLO has contributed items to the "New World Review" and to the "March of Labor". He is author of the book "American Imperialism", copies of which were sold at the above mentioned meeting.

T-2 advised the persons present at this meeting in addition to PERLO included HARRY SHAPIRO, HAROLD BERNHARDT, RAY MILLER, the subject, and subject's son, EUGENE VICTOR JOHNSON.

On a table near the entrance to the meeting hall were circulars asking for funds as well as copies of the New World Review and the book, American Imperialism, by VICTOR PERLO. Approximately thirty people attended the meeting and HARRY SHAPIRO acted as the greeter at the door. RAY MILLER was the chairman of the meeting and HAROLD BERNHARDT sat at the speakers table with VICTOR PERLO. RAY MILLER opened the meeting, advocating that the government should help the flood victims instead of spending money for war. VICTOR PERLO began discussing American Imperialism and by use of a map attempted to show that the Soviet Union is surrounded by vast interests of the Standard Oil Company and asked the question as to whether it looked like the Soviet Union is controlling countries. He quoted a statement made by General SMEDLEY DEBUTLER, who in effect stated he had spent thirty three years in the Marine Corps as a muscle man for big business

Wall Street bankers. PERLO then added, "You see, it is not the Soviet Union that gives you this information". He then alleged that the reason the United States is sending soldiers to Korea to be killed is because there is a huge tungsten mine just south of the thirty eighth parallel and that American soldiers have to protect this mine for the American industrialists. He further added that recently a large tungsten mine was discovered just north of the thirty eighth parallel and for this reason the administration will not settle for peace on the thirty eighth parallel. PERLO also made disparaging remarks regarding the Marshall Plan and its operation. Throughout his talk he referred to his book, American Imperialism, and at the conclusion he sold about eighteen or twenty copies.

~~Mrs~~ HARRY SHAPIRO made an appeal for money and the subject gave \$10.

Regarding HARRY SHAPIRO, T-14, of known reliability, advised SHAPIRO has been a long time member of the Communist Party in Kansas City. T-15, of known reliability, advised during October, 1950, SHAPIRO and his wife, RUTH, had considerable contact with Mr. and Mrs. ARTHUR PUMMILL and with LEWIS and RUBEN GREEN, who, according to T-14, have been long time members of the Communist Party in Kansas City.

With regard to HAROLD BERNHARDT, T-16, of known reliability, advised BERNHARDT is one of the originators and the most active member of the Kansas City Peace Committee, a Communist dominated affiliate of the American Peace Crusade. BERNHARDT has served as executive secretary of the Kansas City Peace Committee since its origin and is known by T-16 to be closely associated with individuals known to T-14 as Communist Party members in Kansas City.

Concerning ARCHIBALD RAY MILLER, T-17, of known reliability, advised in December, 1950, that MILLER joined a unit of the Communist Party in Washington, D. C., in 1938. In 1941, MILLER was an organizer of a Communist Party unit. T-18, of known reliability, advised that in 1942 MILLER was listed in the active indices of the Washington Committee for Democratic Action and in 1942 in the active indices of the American Peace Mobilization. The Washington Committee for Democratic Action and the American Peace Mobilization have been declared by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order No. 9835. T-19, of known reliability, advised that in 1948 MILLER was elected vice-president of Local No. 3 of United Packing House Workers of America in Washington, D. C. T-19 stated MILLER and ARTHUR ROSENBAUM, president of the local, continually agreed on issues and policies that appeared to implement the Communist Party line. T-16 advised MILLER is active in the

Kansas City Peace Committee, serving as a former member of its executive board and as part time chairman.

EUGENE VICTOR JOHNSON, subject's son, 1714 Troupe, Kansas City, Kansas, according to T-5, of unknown reliability, has closely followed the Communist Party doctrine for at least ten years. T-5 said ~~EUGENE~~ JOHNSON frequently possesses Communist literature and has associated for the past two years with persons who are believed to be Communist Party members. T-5 suspects EUGENE JOHNSON has been enlisted as a Communist Party member although there are no facts to definitely establish this allegation at the present time.

5/4
T-3, of unknown reliability, advised that ~~WILLIAM JOSEPH~~ ~~BURNLEY~~ visited the home of the subject overnight on October 1, 1951. BURNLEY is known to drive a red Chevrolet pickup truck. In July, 1942, T-20, of known reliability, described BURNLEY as active in the Communist Party and one who distributed Communist pamphlets and literature at Communist Party meetings. T-3 advised in September, 1950, that during the past ten years BURNLEY has freely admitted Communist Party membership and supports the Communist Party in conversations. T-14 has advised that BURNLEY is a member of the Communist Party.

The Little Rock Office by letter dated November 6, 1951, advised that Mr. GEORGE L. HOBRIGHT, Branch, Arkansas, and Berryville, Arkansas, furnished a clipping from the Kansas City Weekly Star, which is quoted as follows:

"SAYS RUSSIA WILL FAIL.

George L. Hobright, Berryville, Ark., writes:

"I don't see how Russia can succeed without capital and religion. Other countries have tried and failed and in time she will fail, too. Now capital and labor ought to work in harmony and not antagonize each other and with good, religious laws to govern both. In this civilized age you cannot do without labor, capital or religion. The three are inseparable as Russia will some day see to her sorrow."

Mr. HOBRIGHT stated that as a result to his letter to the newspaper he received a communication from the subject dated

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February 3, 1949, which is as follows:

"R. #2, Spring Hill, Kansas.
Feb. 3rd, 1949

"Mr. George L. Hobright:

Dear Sir;

"I write to inquire if Arkansas has schools? It must be because I remember there was a state law which banned dictionaries from public schools because it contained the word 'evolution'.

"George, take my word for it - even John Collins won't misguide you on this one, Russia does have capital, billions of it and they use it everyday of the year, 'even as you and I'. They even have religion there, as the policy of the government is tolerant towards ones not smart enough or courageous enough to rise above superstition and fear.

"Pause for the nonce, George! Remove your hat, make sure there are no bees buzzing therein. I wish no interference. Civilization and religion were never co-workers. Whenever one reached a high level the other was at its lowest.

"Consider the fourth to the fifteenth century in Europe. Constantine - he made the Christian religion the State religion of Rome, murdered his wife, his eldest son, and a nephew, and for many centuries religion held sway over Europe to the intense detriment and misery of mankind.

"They had no time for science and enlightenment, they were too busy inventing newer and better impliments of torture for the benefit of disbeleivers and heretics.

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"George, have you ever heard the story of one 'Torquemada'. He was a sweet Christian, uplifter of his time. Perhaps we could influence our mutual friend COLLINS to tell us the story of Torquemada and his activities through the columns of the Weekly Star.

"Above all, George, don't permit the many sources of misinformation to upset your mental equilibrium, keep a firm stance as to the future of the U.S.S.R., for shortly we common people here will be absorbed with some very serious problems of our own which will leave us no time to worry about the weakness of so strong a nation as the U.S.S.R.

"George, your letter was some what of a shock to me, it started the wheels of memory spinning. Ah! here it is, about thirty years ago. Herbert Hoover in a letter to President Wilson predicted the early collapse of the U.S.S.R., his line of reason then was the same as yours today.

"Is it possible that somewhere in the hills of Arkansas you have a sleepy hollow and that you! George Hobright have actually out slept Rip Van Winkle by ten years?

"Yours for the advancement of Science,

"Otis W. Johnson, Farmer."

In addition to subject's letter to HOBRIGHT, subject sent a pamphlet entitled "Eugene Dennis Indicts the Wall Street Conspirators", which was published by the National Office, Communist Party, 35 East 12th Street, New York 3, New York, in August, 1948. This pamphlet includes a statement indicating that it is "the text of an address delivered by EUGENE DENNIS, General Secretary of the Communist Party, to a capacity audience at Madison Square Garden, New York, on the occasion of the opening session of the 14th National Convention of the Communist Party, on August 2, 1948."

This pamphlet went on to say this was "in answer to the arrest on July 20 of the twelve members of the National Board of the Communist Party, indicted on charges of conspiring to establish an organization which teaches force and violence."

T-5, of unknown reliability, but who has been associated closely with the subject for more than thirty years described the subject as being an atheist, a person who believed in Socialism during his early youth, and one who accepted Communism at the time of the Soviet Revolution in Russia in 1919. According to T-5, since that time subject has completely supported JOSEPH STALIN, Russian premier, and the Communist Party. T-5 considered subject to have little formal education and claimed subject was in many respects "ignorant". T-5 is of the opinion that subject, being 65 years of age, is harmless and does not constitute a danger to the security of the United States although T-5 said subject is quite fanatical in his belief of Communism. The subject has been known for many years to have subscribed to "the Worker", an east coast Communist publication, and to other literature espousing Communism, and at this time the subject possesses an extensive library of Communist Party literature. T-5 considers subject to be "radical" to the extent that subject absorbs Communist Party literature for about four hours daily and subject is well known in his neighborhood to be a rabid supporter of Communist objectives. T-5 does not believe subject to be a Communist Party member because subject was believed to talk too much and too loud to be accepted by the Communist Party.

T-6, of unknown reliability, but who has been acquainted with the subject for approximately five years, advised that subject has praised Communism and Russia on numerous occasions. T-6 said subject has picture of STALIN in his home and calls himself a Communist although T-6 has never had any definite indication that subject is officially a Communist Party member.

The Chicago Office advised by letter dated October 20, 1951, that the U. S. Committee Against Militarization, 6329 South May, Chicago, Illinois, which contacted the subject on August 31, 1951, is described as follows:

T-7, of known reliability, advised in 1950 that the purpose of U. S. Committee Against Militarization as reported in its News Letter of June 14, 1950, was to promote demilitarization and international co-operation. T-7 stated this organization distributed anti-militarization literature based upon various sources of opinion.

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The San Francisco Office advised by letter dated December 12, 1951, the following information concerning JOHN BASIL ~~MADDY~~, who reportedly contacted the subject on September 27, 1951:

~~APPLIES~~
A composite description of ~~BASIL MADDY~~ taken from the files of the Oakland, California, Police Department and from T-4, of known reliability, indicated that MADDY is white, born April 27, 1891, in Jackson County, Ohio. MADDY is a laborer and earns his living by digging cellars and foundations. He and his wife, JOHANNA ~~MADDY~~, jointly own the property at 2812 East 23rd Street, Oakland, California, where they make their residence.

MADDY is known to be the author of the following pamphlets, which have been turned over to the San Francisco Office by various individuals:

"Who Are the Traitors to America?"
"America, of the Rich, by the Rich, and for the Rich"
"A New Preface Regarding Events in Korea"
"Subversive Utterances"

MADDY'S writing is described by the San Francisco Office as generally following the Communist Party line.

On September 27, 1950, T-8, of known reliability, advised MADDY is a subscriber to the "Daily Peoples World, which, according to T-9, of known reliability, is a Communist dominated and controlled newspaper.

The Philadelphia Office advised by letter dated January 8, 1952, that GUS HORACK, who contacted subject on October 23, 1951, is an editor of a newspaper entitled the "Comet" in Weissport, Pennsylvania.

T-10 and T-12, of known reliability, advised that HORACK was known to have mailed various publications since approximately 1930. They stated HORACK formerly distributed a newspaper which was called the "Target" and has on occasions printed books and pamphlets of different titles, specific names unknown, which have been distributed through the mail. They stated they have no indication that HORACK is a Communist or a Communist Party member.

T-11, of unknown reliability, advised HORACK has printed the newspaper, the "Comet", at Weissport, Pennsylvania, since sometime prior to the early 1930's although it has been reported that HORACK discontinued this newspaper about two years ago.

The Philadelphia Office advised that during 1948 HORACK was editor of the publication entitled the "Atomic Era", which included descriptive statements indicating it is "controversial" and an "Arena for intellectual gladiators" and "no ideology is barred". The Philadelphia Office also advised HORACK was a subscriber to the "Daily Worker" in 1948 and 1949 and was on the mailing list of the "U.S.S.R. Information Bulletin" in 1949.

The Detroit Office by letter dated January 30, 1952, advised that Muskegon Post Office Box 595 is assigned to EUGENE L. HOWARD, 1716 Elwood, Muskegon, Michigan. T-13, of known reliability, advised that HOWARD has been an associate of Communists for many years and has written several books critical of the American economic and social system. He was discharged from a teaching position in the Muskegon Public Schools several years ago because of alleged Communist sympathies. According to T-13, HOWARD has not been a member of the Communist Party at Muskegon but he is considered to be a scholarly and a vocal individual who is influential among Communist sympathizer intelligentsia.

On February 4, 1952, T-21, of known reliability, advised subject was contacted by KATHERINE FLYNN, 224 East 12th, New York, New York. It is noted that KATHERINE FLYNN is the sister of ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, known Communist. KATHERINE recently wrote a book on ELIZABETH, which was mentioned in the "Worker", an east coast Communist newspaper.

T-22, of unknown reliability, who has known subject for about fifteen years, is believed by T-22 to be a member of the Communist Party but has no definite information regarding this. T-22 stated subject is very radical in his thinking as well as in his statements, although T-22 is unable to recall any specific statements made by subject. It is not believed subject advocates the overthrow of the U.S. Government by Russia; however, T-22 does believe subject would prefer to have some form of government in the U.S. similar to that of Russia. In T-22's opinion subject is not too favorable when speaking of Russia, but subject is very enthusiastic about Communism.

- - PENDING - -

ADMINISTRATIVE

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

On November 15, 1951, the New York Office was requested by letter to identify Suite 1302, 11 West 42nd Street, New York, New York, and International Economic Research Bureau, 76 Williams Street, New York 5, New York, which have been corresponding with subject.

On January 31, 1952, the New York Office advised by letter information obtained from [redacted] an organization which maintains records of business establishments in the New York City area, to the effect that Baxter Brothers, Baxter Economic Research Bureau and the International Economic Research Bureau is a partnership established in 1937 with offices located at 76 Williams Street, New York City. This concern publishes a weekly bulletin covering market trends in various commodities and investment securities.

This organization is headed by WILLIAM JOSEPH BAXTER, an economist and statistician, who was the subject of a Registration Act investigation by the Bureau in 1942-1943.

[redacted]

The New York Office advised the Building Directory for 11 West 42nd Street, New York City, New York lists sixty one (61) firms and individuals as occupants of Suite 1302. In the absence of further identification of the correspondent of the subject, the identity has not yet been ascertained.

FOIA(b)3 - Rule 6(e), Grand Jury

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The following are the results of the mail cover placed on the subject during the months of October, November, and December, 1951:

The "National Guardian" - October 1, 9, 19, 30;
November 5; December 12, 1951.

Letter from Suite 707, 114 East 32nd, New York,
New York. (Address for Soviet Russia Today
Publication Incorporated).

Card from William Burnley, 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Hallock,
Kansas City, Kansas. (Subject of Kansas City
File No. 100-94).

"New World Review" - September, October, November,
and December, 1951, issues.

Freedom Magazine - Suite 100, 53 West 12th,
510 Madison Avenue, New York 22, New York.

The American Freeman

Letter from Ray Miller, 5522 Russell, Mission,
Kansas. (Subject of Kansas City File No. 100-9055).

R. R. Sackley, 6214 North Winthrop, Chicago 40,
Illinois - package of Progressive Party literature.

Haband Company, Patterson 4, New Jersey.

Suite 209-D, 1067 North Fairfax, Hollywood 40,
California - first class letter postmarked Girard,
Kansas.

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Suite B, 23 West 26th, New York 10, New York.

17 Murray Street, New York 7, New York.

Room 642, 799 Broadway, New York 3, New York.

"Reporter" - 220 East 42nd, New York 17, New York.

Post Office Box 595, Muskegon, Michigan.

China Monthly Review, 160 Yenan Road, (E) Shanghai
(O) China.

Unknown paper from Horack's Printing Service,
Weissport, Pennsylvania.

The Peoples Advocate - published by the Kansas City
Peace Committee.

A Book, name unknown, Post Office Box 1303,
Des Moines, Iowa.

Third class letter, 1729 H Street N.W., Washington,
6, D. C.

A package of books from Spartacus, Post Office Box
171, Planetarium Station, New York 24, New York.

On 2-4-52 first-class letter from Katherine Flynn,
224 East 12th Street, New York 3, New York.

INFORMANTS

T-1 is [REDACTED] Spring Hill, Kansas, who
confidentially furnished information to Special Agent
STANLEY F. JOHNSON, JR., on January 15, 1952.

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T-2 is [] who furnished information to Special Agent HERBERT W. CHESHIRE and to Special Agent ROBERT T. McIVER on September 18, 1951.

T-3 is [] who confidentially furnished information to Special Agent HERBERT W. CHESHIRE on October 2, 1951.

T-4 is Alameda County Voter's Registration records, Alameda, California, as incorporated in the San Francisco letter to Kansas City dated December 12, 1951.

T-5 is OTIS MEREDITH JOHNSON, subject of Kansas City File No. 100-9008, who was interviewed by Special Agents GEORGE KEEFER and STANLEY F. JOHNSON, JR. on January 16, 1952, and on January 28, 1952, was interviewed by Special Agents ROBERT T. McIVER and STANLEY F. JOHNSON, JR.

T-6 is LUTHER HILLMAN, Edgerton, Kansas, father-in-law of subject's son, EUGENE VICTOR JOHNSON, who confidentially furnished information to Special Agent HERBERT W. CHESHIRE, on November 7, 1951.

T-7 is [] whose information is incorporated in the Chicago letter to Kansas City dated October 20, 1951.

T-8 is Mrs. MAXINE SOLTER, 1644 20th Avenue, Oakland, California, who requested that her identity be protected and whose information was incorporated in the San Francisco letter to Kansas City dated December 12, 1951.

T-9 is [] whose information was incorporated in the San Francisco letter to Kansas City dated December 12, 1951.

T-10 is M. O. MOYER, postmaster at Weissport, Pennsylvania, whose information is incorporated in the Philadelphia letter to Kansas City dated January 8, 1952.

T-11 is LOREN BISBING, assistant cashier of the Hazleton National Bank, Weissport, Pennsylvania, whose information is incorporated in the Philadelphia letter to Kansas City dated January 8, 1952.

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ADMINISTRATIVE

T-12 is IRENE HOUSER, assistant postmaster, Weissport, Pennsylvania, whose information is incorporated in Philadelphia letter to Kansas City dated January 8, 1952.

T-13 is [] whose information is incorporated in the Detroit letter to Kansas City dated January 30, 1952.

T-14 is [] who is regularly contacted by Special Agent ROBERT T. McIVER.

T-15 is [], who furnished information to Special Agent ROBERT T. McIVER in October, 1950.

T-16 is [] who is regularly contacted by Special Agent ROBERT T. McIVER.

T-17 is [] who furnished information to Special Agent JOHN E. HOWARD on December 21, 1950, as incorporated in Washington Field Office letter to Bureau dated May 25, 1951.

T-18 is information incorporated in letter from Washington Field Office to Bureau dated May 25, 1951.

T-19 is []

T-20 is []

T-21 is ARTHUR O. TIMMONS, mail carrier, Spring Hill, Kansas.

T-22 is MINA JEAN JOHNSON, 2648 North 21st Street, Kansas City, Kansas, daughter of OTIS MEREDITH JOHNSON, and granddaughter of subject, who furnished information to Special Agent ROBERT F. FETZNER on November 19, 1951.

LEADSKANSAS CITY DIVISIONAt Edgerton, Kansas.

Will recontact LUTHER HILLMAN, father-in-law of subject's son, who stated he may be able to ascertain whether OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON possesses or has ever possessed a Communist Party membership card and how and to whom he pays membership dues.

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ADMINISTRATIVE

At Kansas City, Missouri.

Will follow and will report activities of the subject with regard to his affiliation with the Kansas City Peace Committee.

REFERENCE

Report of Special Agent HERBERT W. CHESHIRE dated September 28, 1951, at Kansas City, Missouri.

SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

June 18, 1952

Director, FBI (100-354572) - 12

RECORDED - 119

EX-141 OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reurlet dated May 28, 1952.

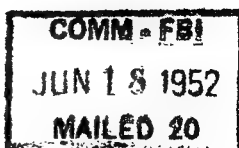
Authority to interview the subject is denied
in view of his present sympathies.

You are requested to submit your recommendations
regarding the subject for the Security Index.

JTH:rep
[Signature]

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____

rel



JUN 18 1 35 PM '52
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
RECEIVED MAIL ROOM

A/B
7/8/52

[Signature]

[Signature]

61 JUN 23 1952

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director - FBI

DATE: May 28, 1952

FROM : SAC - Kansas City (100-1717)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SECURITY MATTER - C

G. I. R. 3

fms 5-1

Bureau permission is being requested to interview subject.

1. Subject, a white man, is a farmer residing on Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas.
2. He is married to ELSIE A. JOHNSON, who is also white.
3. There is no evidence to show subject ^{MRS OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON} has ever been a member of the Communist Party. However, subject has espoused the cause of the Communist Party since 1919 and has completely supported JOSEPH STALIN and the USSR since that time.
4. There is no evidence to show ELSIE A. JOHNSON has ever been a member of the Communist Party.
5. There is no evidence that any of subject's relatives have been members of the Communist Party. Subject's son, EUGENE V. JOHNSON, has been active in the Kansas City Peace Committee, an affiliate of the American Peace Crusade.
6. In 1949 Subject stated that if the United States became involved in a war with Russia, the United States would be defeated and he would do all he could to help Russia with such a war. Subject is active in the Kansas City Peace Committee an affiliate of the American Peace Crusade.
7. Subject is noted to be a talkative, argumentative adherent to the Communist Party line. It is felt that subject upon interview may furnish facts concerning his Communist Party activities as he has argued the Communist Party line to his neighbors for many years and apparently considers himself an authority on the subject. This interview will assist in determining the dangerousness of subject to the security of the United States.

LEW:ebc

Let - Kansas City
6-18-52
RECORDED - 112
EX - 106
INDEXED - 112

100-354572-12
84 JUN 2 1952

Form No. 3

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KANSAS CITY**

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT: KANSAS CITY	DATE WHEN MADE: 7/31/52	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 5/15; 7/2,3,4,5, 14,15,16,17,22/52	REPORT MADE BY: LOWELL E. WILLIAMS ma
TITLE: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON			CHARACTER OF CASE: SECURITY MATTER - C

SUMMARY REPORT

Subject stated in early 1949 that he would assist Russia in a war against the U.S., has consistently supported JOSEPH STALIN, Russian Premier, and the Communist Party since 1919. Subject has written letters Kansas Congressman ERRETT P. SCRIVNER, radio commentator ALEXDREIER, and other people defending Russia and the Communist Party. Has attended meetings of the Kansas City Peace Committee in 1951, at which VICTOR PERLO and ARTHUR D. KAHN, CP members, spoke. Has also subscribed to "New World Review", "In Fact", and "The Worker".

-PR-

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	100-354572-13	RECORDED AND INDEXED: RECORDED - 161 INDEXED - 161
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 5 - Bureau (100-354572) (Registered) 3 - Kansas City (100-1717)	BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION AUG 5 1952 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO: E B I FILE	JACKETED: <i>[Signature]</i>
SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 7-1983		

KC (100-1717)

DETAILS:

BACKGROUND

BIRTH DATA

Custodian of Records
Kansas City Terminal Railway Co.
Union Station
Kansas City, Missouri

Can introduce in evidence their employment records which reflect that subject was born at Holliday, Kansas, on September 23, 1884.

CITIZENSHIP

Since subject was born at Holliday, Kansas, he is a citizen of the United States by birth.

EDUCATION

No information has been developed concerning subject's education.

MARITAL STATUS

Custodian of Records
Kansas City Terminal Railway Co.
Union Station
Kansas City, Missouri

Can introduce in evidence their employment records which reflect that subject is married to ELSIE A. JOHNSON.

MILITARY SERVICE RECORD

Subject has no known military service.

CRIMINAL RECORD

Subject has no known criminal record.

KC (100-1717)

EMPLOYMENT

Custodian of Records
Kansas City Terminal Railway Co.
Union Station
Kansas City, Missouri

Can introduce in evidence their records which reflect subject was employed by the Missouri-Pacific Railroad as a Fireman from July 8, 1907, to July 25, 1908, and was employed as a Fireman and Engineer by the Kansas City Terminal Railway Company from August 3, 1908 to September 28, 1920.

OTTO MURPHY
Independent Dairy Company
Kansas City, Missouri

Can testify that subject operated the Maple Leaf Dairy in the vicinity of Bucyrus, Kansas, from about 1934 to 1951.

Custodian of Records
North American Aviation, Inc.
Inglewood, California

Can introduce in evidence records which reflect subject was employed as a tool crib attendant at their Kansas City, Missouri plant from January 26, 1943 to April 9, 1945.

Witness T-1, of known reliability, can testify that as of 5-15-52, subject was operating a farm on Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas.

RESIDENCES

Custodian of Records
North American Aviation, Inc.
Inglewood, California

Can introduce in evidence application for employment with the company at Kansas City, Missouri, dated January 9, 1943, in which subject lists his residence as 2821 Cissna, Kansas City, Kansas.

Custodian of Records
Merchants Credit Bureau
Kansas City, Missouri

Can introduce records which reflect that in November, 1943, subject resided at the Reid Hotel, Kansas City, Missouri.

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T-2, of known reliability, can testify that subject resided on a farm between Bucyrus and Spring Hill, Kansas, from at least 1938 to 1948, with the exception of living in Kansas City, Kansas while employed by the North American Aviation Corporation.

T-1 can testify that as of May 5, 1952, subject continued to reside on a farm on Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas.

STATUS OF HEALTH

T-1 can testify that as of May 15, 1951, subject was in excellent health.

CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY
OR OTHER REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS

There has been no information developed that subject has been a member of the Communist Party or of any other revolutionary group.

REVOLUTIONARY STATEMENTS MADE BY
SUBJECT

DETAILS OF EACH STATEMENT ADVOCATING OVERTHROW OF THE GOVERNMENT

T-5, of unknown reliability, can testify that for the last fifteen years subject has talked very frequently about his interest in the Communist Party and has remarked that he has attended Communist Party meetings. He can also testify that early in 1949 subject praised Russia and stated that if this country became involved in a war with Russia the United States would be defeated. He stated that he would do all he could to help Russia win such a war.

STATEMENTS MADE SHOWING ADHERENCE TO PRINCIPLES OF MARXISM-LENINISM

JOHN LASKIE
Topeka
Kansas

Can testify that prior to 1941 subject spoke very strongly in favor of the Communist Party movement in the United States and Russia's form of government. On at least two occasions prior to 1941 JOHNSON advised LASKIE that he had been to Kansas City, Missouri, attending a Communist meeting.

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ROY R. CRAWFORD
Bucyrus
Kansas

Can testify that prior to 1943, subject told him that Russia was the ideal place to live and that everything was wrong with the government in this country. When CRAWFORD asked subject why he did not go to Russia if he liked it so well, subject stated that he was an American and that we would have to bring the Russian type of government over here.

FRED FILKINS
813 $\frac{1}{2}$ Massachusetts
Lawrence, Kansas

Can testify that prior to late 1948 subject was constantly cursing President TRUMAN and the present administration and was also very critical of the ROOSEVELT administration. He said that his party was pulling for WALLACE for President and asked FILKINS to sign a petition promoting WALLACE as a candidate for the Presidency of the United States. He said that WALLACE was the best candidate in the field. On frequent occasions subject said that there should be a change in the government and that it should be soon. He further informed FILKINS that the greatest men in the world today were Russians and named among them STALIN and MOLOTOV. Subject said that Russia did not want war but that the capitalists in the United States were promoting a world-wide conflagration and were branding the Russians in their propaganda. JOHNSON used the word "Fascists" frequently in alluding to enemies in his way of thinking.

JESS D. CAMP
Bucyrus
Kansas

Can testify that he talked to subject on numerous occasions prior to 1948 and that when subject praised Russia he had asked him why he did not return to Russia if he liked it so much, and that the subject then always said that he wants to stay here and that we should have the Russian form of government over here.

DURAH W. WATTS
Paola
Kansas

Can testify that in late 1947 subject entered into a conversation with him regarding the Russian form of government and went into detail explaining the conveniences in Russia, also pointing out that their government is better than that of the United States in that in Russia everybody has a modern and well-equipped home with plenty to eat and everyone is on

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an equal plane and has no worries. Subject also stated that the United States was a fine country but what it needed was the Russian type of government over here. Subject also said that he does not believe the majority of the information set forth in the American press and claimed that the Russian papers, as well as the Communist literature, are more authentic.

ERRETT P. SCRIVNER
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Can introduce in evidence a letter written to him by the subject on January 22, 1948. Included in this letter are the following passages:

".....Everything they pretend secret is to the Soviet-German Non-Aggression Pact Aug. 23rd, 1939, has been known for a long time by anyone who reads the daily press.

"Two books shed much light upon that pact. 'The Soviets Expected It', by Anne Louise Strong of Kansas City who spent many years in Russia. 'The Great Conspiracy Against Russia', Sayers and Kahn - Senator Pepper says of the last 'must reading for all statesmen'."

SCRIVNER can also introduce in evidence another letter from the subject, undated, which was in reply to SCRIVNER'S letter of January 26, 1948. The following are excerpts from this letter:

"We here are glad to know where you stand on the peace time conscription plan as proposed by leading groups of war mongers. Your statement as to the Soviet Union being one of the most ruthless potential enemies the world has ever seen is nonsense of the lowest order, rather say the enemies of world peace and disarmament today are in powerful groups that are represented largely within the N.A.M. and working hand in glove with them the professional politicians of both parties many of whom should not be trusted outside of mad houses."

SCRIVNER can also introduce in evidence a letter written to him by subject dated February 10. The following are excerpts from this letter:

"The authors I cited produce an overwhelming abundance of evidence and reasoning that will do much toward convincing the American people that the real threat to world peace is within the ranks of American and British imperialism and supporting groups that are insane enough to beleive that Americans could ever benefit by such an adventure."

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"As to Geo. Seldes I want to ask you if you have ever read his 'Lords of the Press' can you deny the great service he has done and will do for the people of this nation? Do you for a minute beleive that the vast majority of the press and radio speaks for the best interest of the American people? Since you have derided Communist - I wish to remind you there are many people within your district who are not anti communist and who are seeking facts and they will not be deceived by the crude lies of the N.A.M. and others. I lived many years under the shadows of 'Tom's Town', similar conditions existed in every large city in the United States.

"The annals of the Republican and Democratic parties are replete with corruption, mis-rule and betrayal.

"Now the story of communist parties throughout the world is different from Russia to China, therefore I cannot understand your extreme readiness to discount the truth as advanced by communist. Under our constitution and laws they have the same rights as given to any other political party. And I will say in closing that all of the communist men or women I have known were outstanding for intelligence and culture."

Concerning GEORGE SELDES, the magazine "In Fact" has been "cited as a Communist Front, whose President and Editor is GEORGE SELDES." (Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, March 29, 1944, Page 48).

The "Call" to a Conference for Women of the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. in the "Post-War World", which was to be held in New York City on November 18, 1944, listed ANNE LOUISE STRONG as a member and sponsor of the Committee of Women of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship.

The National Council of American-Soviet Friendship has been cited as a Communist organization by the Attorney General.

MAURICE L. MALKIN, New York City, a CP member since 1919, testified in 1939 before the Special Committee on Un-American Activities concerning ANNE LOUISE STRONG that "She is a member of the CGFU". (Volume 9, Page 5777).

ANDREW SMITH, a member of the Communist Party since 1921, testified before the Special Committee on Un-American Activities on October 25, 1939, that ANNE LOUISE STRONG was a representative from the American Communist Party to the Tass Agency in Moscow. (Volume 10, Page 6438).

Articles by MICHAEL SAYERS appeared in the December 7, 1937 (Page 26), January 11, 1938 (Page 27), and the March 8, 1938 (Page 28) issues of "New Masses".

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MICHAEL SAYERS contributed articles to the May and June, 1940 issues of "Equality".

MICHAEL SAYERS was a contributor to the April 26, May 10, June 21, August 16, September 20, and October 18, 1940 issues of "Friday".

"New Masses", "Equality, and "Friday" were cited by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities in Report 1311 dated March 29, 1941.

T-3, of known reliability, has identified ALBERT E. ~~X~~KAHN as a Communist Party member and as President of the Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order, an organization which has been cited as "Communist" by the Attorney General.

ALEX DREIER
NBC
Chicago, Illinois

Can introduce in evidence a letter written to him by subject, dated March 4, 1948. The following are excerpts from this letter:

"Your reflections on press and radio as information to the people must in many ways be amended. My main sources of accurate information is The Daily Worker, "Labor", C.I.O. news, two or three communist magazines, "In Fact" and two good books monthly as "1000 Americans", "1-2-3 Infinity" and I read such authors as EDGAR SNOW."

"My sole purpose in following either is to hear the howls of pain when the Soviet Union squeezes some of your slimy reactionary fascists friends. Believe me ALEX; my soul soars, I gain the heights of happiness and delight when I hear you and LOWASELL BOMBAST howl with pain over some new achievement of the U.S.S.R. that benefits humanity."

"The Daily Worker" is an east coast Communist newspaper.

T-4, of known reliability, advised on June 26, 1950, that up to 1945, EDGAR SNOW was under Communist Party discipline according to JACK STACHEL, National Communist Party Functionary.

GEORGE L. HOBRIGHT
Berryville
Arkansas

Can introduce in evidence a letter written to him by subject, dated February 3, 1949. This letter was in answer to a letter written by HOBRIGHT to the Kansas City Weekly Star, which was printed and which contended

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that capital, labor, and religion are necessary for the success of a country, and the lack of capital, labor, and religion would cause the downfall of Russia. The following are excerpts from subject's letter.

"George, take my word for it - even John Collins won't misguide you on this one, Russia does have capital, billions of it and they use it every-day of the year, 'even as you and I'. They even have religion there, as the policy of the government is tolerant towards ones not smart enough or courageous enough to rise above superstition and fear."

"Above all, George, don't permit the many sources of misinformation to upset your mental equilibrium, keep a firm stance as to the future of the U.S.S.R., for shortly we common people here will be absorbed with some very serious problems of our own which will leave us no time to worry about the weakness of so strong a nation as the U.S.S.R."

"George, your letter was some what of a shock to me, it started the wheels of memory spinning. Ah! here it is, about thirty, years ago. Herbert Hoover in a letter to President Wilson predicted the early collapse of the U.S.S.R., his line of reason then was the same as yours today."

Subject enclosed with his letter a pamphlet entitled "Eugene Dennis Indicts the Wall Street Conspirators", which is the text of an address delivered by EUGENE DENNIS, General Secretary of the Communist Party, on August 2, 1948 and is in answer to the arrest of the twelve members of the National Board of the Communist Party.

Mrs. CHARLES L. GILL
7418 Jefferson
Kansas City, Missouri

Can introduce in evidence a letter written to her by subject, dated March 18, 1951. Subject wrote this letter after noticing the name of Mrs. GILL's husband was included on a P.O.W. list from Korea. This letter is as follows:

"R. #2, Spring Hill, Kansas
March 18th 51.

"Mrs. Charles L. Gill

"Dear Madame:

"We take the liberty of mailing you these clippings which you may value.

"My Gaurdian came one week late. It was well worn showing signs of being

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well read enroute. This March 7th issue contains much that is close to the hearts of many Americans like yourself, ones who don't get the truth through our kept press and radio.

"These minions of Wall St. have lied in a coarse and cruel manner to people who have loved ones in Korea. These lies consist of playing up the atrocity stories of what happens to P.O.W. taken by the Chinese.

"Through many years of close study and relationships with the Communist party of China and their great and humane leaders we can add our assurance that your husband will receive humane treatment from the Chinese government.

"It is not patriotism to uphold the brutal and barbarous acts committed upon the Korean people, directed by a greedy group of Wall St. bankers.

"It is to be seen if the American people don't stop this bloody conflict many millions of American youth will be sacrificed to this God of War that MacArthur worships and his mad attempt to bring Asia back as servile slaves to our Wall St. dominated government.

"If we can be of any future service to you we will help any way we can.

"Yours Truly,
Signed - Mr. and Mrs. Otis W. Johnson.

"P.S.

"A sub. to the Gaurdian will keep you truthfully informed about many things. They are in close touch and have the confidence of John W. Powell American editor and publisher of the Shanghi, China monthly review:

"Mr. Powell is an American of outstanding integrity."

"The National Guardian" has been cited as a publication organized in 1948 aiming at national circulation, which was from its inception noticeably Stalinist in its staff, writers, management, and contents. (1949 report of Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities.)

In 1951 ALBERT ANSON DORRANCE, Washington, D.C., who was in China from 1946 until 1950, advised SA JAMES FREW that when the Chinese Communists took Shanghai all English newspapers were closed with the exception of the "China Weekly Review", later changed to the "China Monthly Review", which was published by JOHN WILLIAM POWELL. This newspaper was notoriously anti-American and DORRANCE was informed by sources of unknown reliability, but who had furnished him reliable information in the past, that this newspaper received a subsidy from the Chinese Communist Party.

T-6, of known reliability, can testify that subject was present at a meeting of the Kansas City Peace Committee held on September 6, 1951 at 1 Linwood Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri. VICTOR PERLO, the main speaker, discussed American Imperialism and by use of a map attempted to show that the Soviet Union is surrounded by vast interests of the Standard Oil Company. He asked the question as to whether it looked like the Soviet Union is controlling other countries. He alleged that the reason the United States is sending soldiers to Korea to be killed is because there is a huge tungsten mine just south of the thirty-eighth parallel and that American soldiers have to protect this mine for the American industrialists. He further stated that recently a larger tungsten mine was discovered north of the thirty-eighth parallel and for this reason the administration will not settle for peace on the thirty-eighth parallel. PERLO also made disparaging remarks regarding the Marshall Plan and its operation.

At the above meeting the subject donated \$10.00

T-7, of known reliability, advised on April 26, 1951, that the Kansas City Peace Committee is an official affiliate of the American Peace Crusade.

The American Peace Crusade has been cited as an organization which "the Communists established" as a "new instrument for the 'peace' offensive in the United States" and which was heralded by the Daily Worker "with the usual bold headlines reserved for projects in line with Communist objection". (Congressional Committee of Un-American Activities statement issued on the March of Treason, February 19, 1951, and House Report #378, on the Communist "Peace" offensive, April 25, 1951, original date, April 1, 1951, page 51.

T-8, of known reliability, has stated VICTOR PERLO was a member of the Communist Party Underground.

T-1 can testify he has heard subject on numerous occasions praise Communism and Russia. Subject follows the Communist Party line and opposes United States defense preparations and the Korean War by attacking big business and by calling any critical remark against Russia "propaganda". He has heard subject on one occasion state "if we are ever foolish enough to become involved in a war with Russia, we will be beaten in two weeks". The subject calls himself a Communist, and T-1 considers him a fanatic on the subject of Communism because he becomes excited, shouts, and waves his arms whenever talking about Communism. T-1 has observed that subject has a

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picture of Stalin in his home and also a large library which subject has stated to T-1 relates to Communism.

GEORGE L. WHITLOCK
Ass't. Editor, Johnson Co. Democrat
Olathe
Kansas

Can introduce in evidence a letter by subject written to the Johnson County Democrat, dated April 22, 1952. This letter is as follows:

"Spring Hill, Ks.
April 22-52

"Johnson County Democrat,

"Dear Sirs:

"I wish to inform you that it was Joseph Goebbels, Hitler's Propaganda minister who coined the absurdity, 'Iron Curtain' and not the Tory Churchill at his Fulton, Mo. war-mongering speech. The Falsifiers of History are attempting to cover its sinister origin.

"If the editors of our local papers were better educated men and women they would not be so easily deceived by the corrupt and lying press.

"Thousands of people visit the Soviet Union each year, at the recent economic conference they came from every land and clime.

"What Apes and Parrots our bourgeois writers are becoming.

"Yours For Peace,
Signed - Otis W. Johnson. (Farmer)"

LEONARD WHITAKER
Bucyrus
Kansas

Can testify that on Memorial Day, 1938, subject flew a plain red flag about one foot square in his front yard, which the American Legion, Louisburg, Kansas, made him take down.

T-9, of known reliability, can testify that on December 3, 1951, subject was in contact with the occupant of Suite B, 23 West 26th, New York City, New York. T-13 can also

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testify that on December 10, 1951, subject was in contact with occupant of Room 642, 799 Broadway, New York City, New York.

Investigation by the New York Office reflects Suite B, 23 West 26th Street, New York City, was occupied by the Civil Rights Congress, New York State, and Room 642, 799 Broadway, is occupied by MARION BACHRACH.

The Civil Rights Congress has been cited as a Communist organization by the Attorney General.

T-3 has identified MARION BACHRACH as a full-time appointed functionary under direct leadership of members of the National Committee of the Communist Party, 1951.

T-10, of unknown reliability, can testify that he has known the subject over twenty years and that subject is an atheist, a person who believed in Socialism during his early youth, and one who accepted Communism at the time of the Soviet Revolution in Russia in 1919. Since that time subject has completely supported JOSEPH STALIN, Russian premier, and the Communist Party. He has for many years subscribed to the "Worker" and other literature espousing the Communist Party line. He possesses an extensive library of Communist Party literature and reads Communist literature for about four hours daily.

T-11, of known reliability, can testify that subject was present at a meeting of the Kansas City Peace Committee held on April 29, 1952 at 1824 Paseo, Kansas City, Missouri. At this meeting the film "Peace Will Win", which is a story of the Second Peace Congress in Warsaw, Poland, in the fall of 1950, was shown. The film depicted the Russians as peace-loving people and showed American planes bombing women and children in Korea.

MISCELLANEOUS

T-2, of known reliability, can testify that during March, April, and early May, 1948, subject received each week copies of "The Worker" and "In Fact".

"The Worker" is the Sunday edition of the "Daily Worker", an east coast Communist newspaper.

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T-12, of known reliability, can introduce in evidence a card indicating that on April 4, 1950 subject subscribed to "The Worker" for one year, the subscription to run to April 16, 1951.

T-13, of known reliability, can testify that subject wrote a check in the amount of \$15.00 during March, 1949, a check of \$12.25 on October 10, 1949, and a check for \$5.00 during October, 1949, on the bank of Louisburg, Kansas. All of these checks were made payable to WARREN WILLIAM BATTERSON of Omaha, Nebraska.

~~X~~ T-14, of known reliability, has identified WARREN WILLIAM BATTERSON as District Organizer for District 32, Communist Party, USA, until October, 1950.

T-15, of known reliability, can testify that subject was present at a meeting of the Kansas City Peace Committee held the evening of May 29, 1951, at 1 West Linwood Boulevard, Kansas City, Missouri. The principal speaker for the evening was ARTHUR D. KAHN, who spoke concerning his knowledge of the situation in Western Europe. He stated that Germany is actually being controlled by the Rockefeller-Morgan-DuPont interests. He said they are also controlling events in Italy, England and France; that if war should come with Russia, the people of these countries, including Western Germany, would not go along with this country in fighting Russia. He said that even Franco Spain would be a doubtful ally in any war between the United States and Russia. He also stated that the real criminals of the Hitler Regime were not prosecuted, are at large, and are influential in the running of things today in Germany. He stated that Wall Street is so closely aligned to the World situation and so responsible for it that when there is a "danger of peace" Wall Street stocks go down.

T-3 has identified ARTHUR D. KAHN as a member of the Communist Party.

T-7, of known reliability, can testify that subject attended a meeting of the Kansas City Peace Committee held the night of June 23, 1951 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. JAMES, 3425 East 46th Street, Kansas City, Missouri. The discussion at the meeting was concerned with the sending of delegates to Chicago, Illinois to the American People's Congress and Exposition for Peace to be held June 29-30, July 1, 1951 in Chicago.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - SECURITY INFORMATION

The April 22, 1951 issue of the "Daily Worker" stated the American People's Congress and Exposition for Peace was called by the American Peace Crusade.

T-7 can also testify that several members of the Kansas City Peace Committee met at 1247 Ohio, Lawrence, Kansas on July 6, 1951 in an attempt to form a local party of the American Peace Crusade. Subject was among those present.

T-16, of known reliability, can testify that on April 10, 1951 subject made a payment of \$4.00 to the magazine "New World Review".

"Soviet Russia Today" has been cited as a Communist front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, reported March 29, 1944, page 167. The name "Soviet Russia Today" was changed to "New World Review" in March, 1951.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

T-1 described the subject as follows:

Name	OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
Address	Route #2, Spring Hill, Kansas
Birthdate	September 23, 1884, Holliday, Kansas
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5'7"
Weight	145#
Build	Average
Hair	Gray
Eyes	Brown
Scars and Marks	None
Social Security #	513-20-3001
Occupation	Farmer
Relatives	Wife - ELSIE A. JOHNSON Son - OTIS MEREDITH JOHNSON EUGENE VICTOR JOHNSON
Health	Good

1936
1884
5'7"

- PENDING -

-15-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - SECURITY INFORMATION

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Subject is being recommended for the Security Index due to the fact that he has continually followed the Communist Party line since 1919 and has stated he would assist Russia in the event Russia and the United States were involved in war.

<u>INFORMANTS</u>				
<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity or Desc. of Info.</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Agent Receiving and Method</u>	<u>Location</u>
T-1, LUTHER O. HILLMAN, Edgerton, Ks., who requested his identity be withheld.	9-14-51 5-15-52	9-14-51 5-15-52	SA HERBERT W. CHESHIRE-Orally SA L.E. WILLIAMS Orally	100-1717-55 100-1717- this report
T-2, Postmaster JAMES E. GAY, Spring Hill, Ks. whose identity is being withheld due to nature of his position	Residence of Subject	Feb. or March, 1948 4-9-48	SA ROBERT F. FETZNER-Orally	100-1717-19
T-2, "	Received "The Worker" and "In Fact", March, April, May, '48	5-15-48	SA ROBERT F. FETZNER-Written	100-1717-1a(2)
T-3, [REDACTED]	CP Membership of ALBERT E. KAHN	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
T-3, "	CP Membership of ARTHUR D. KAHN	Unknown	SA JAS. F. DIFFLEY SA EDW. W. BUCKLEY	Unknown
T-3, "	MARION BACHRACH'S status as functionary of CP-USA	1952	SA JOSEPH A CULLEN-Written	100-1717-1a(7)
T-4, [REDACTED]	CP Domination of EDGAR SNOW	6-26-50	SA NEIL P. DIVERS-Orally	Unknown
T-5, KENNETH HILLMAN, 6944 Glasgow, Los Angeles, Calif., who requested his identity be withheld	Early 1949	4-15-49	SA JAMES J. HILL-Orally	100-1717-33

KC (100-1717)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Continued)

Identity of Source	Date of Activity or Desc. of Info.	Date Received	Agent Receiving and Method	Location
T-6, [REDACTED]	9-6-51	9-18-51	SA HERBERT W. CHESHIRE-Written SA ROBERT T. McIVER-Orally	[REDACTED]
T-7, [REDACTED]	4-20-51	4-26-51	SA ROBERT T. McIVER-Written	[REDACTED]
T-7, [REDACTED]	6-23-51	6-26-51	SA ROBERT T. McIVER-Written	[REDACTED]
T-7, "	7-6-51	7-9-51	SA C. LAWRENCE RICE-Orally	100-1717-40
T-8, ELIZABETH BENTLEY	CP Membership of VICTOR PERLO	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
T-9, ARTHUR O. TIMMONS, Rural Route #2 Carrier, Spring Hill, Ks. whose identity is being withheld due to nature of his position	12-3-51 12-10-51	12-15-51 12-15-51	SA STANLEY F. JOHNSON-Written	100-1717-1a(7)
T-10, OTIS MEREDITH JOHNSON, 2628 N. 21st St., Kansas City, Ks., son of subj., who requested his identity be withheld	Belief in Communism by Subject	1-16-52	SA GEORGE KEEFER & STANLEY F. JOHNSON-Orally	100-1717-72
T-11, [REDACTED]	4-29-52	5-12-52	SA ROBERT T. McIVER-Written	[REDACTED]
T-12, [REDACTED]	4-4-50	3-28-52	SA EVERETT K. DEANE & SA STEPHEN W. JENNINGS-Written	100-1717-1a(11)
T-13, ARTHUR D. ANDERSON Cashier, U. S. Nat'l. Bank, Omaha, whose identity is being withheld due to nature of his position	March, 1949	4-5-49	SA EDMOND F. BRICK (A)-Orally	100-5223-173

KC (100-1717)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Continued)

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity or Desc. of Info.</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Agent Receiving and Method</u>	<u>Location</u>
T-14, [REDACTED]	CP activity of WARREN WILLIAM BATTERSON	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
T-15, [REDACTED]	5-29-51	5-30-51	SA C. LAWRENCE RICE-Orally	100-1717-39
T-16, E. V. PURDUE, Cashier, Bank of Louisburg, Ks., who requested his identity be withheld	4-10-51	9-13-51	SA HERBERT W. CHESHIRE-Orally	100-1717-55

LOCATION OF EXHIBITS

Photostatic copies of the three letters sent by subject to ERRETT P. SCRIVNER are maintained in 100-1717-1a(1), (9), (10). The originals were returned to SCRIVNER.

The original of the letter to ALEX DREIER from subject is maintained in 100-1717-1a(3)

The original of the letter to Mrs. CHARLES GILL from subject is maintained in 100-1717-1a(4).

The original of the letter to GEORGE HOBRIGHT and the pamphlet "Eugene Dennis Indicts the Wall Street Conspirators" are being maintained in 100-1717-1a(6).

The original of the letter to the Johnson County Democrat written by subject is maintained in 100-1717-1a(8).

REFERENCE: Bulet to Kansas City dated 6/18/52.
Report of SA STANLEY F. JOHNSON, JR., Kansas City, dated 2/2/52.

SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

October 15, 1952

RECORDED - 22

Director, FBI (100-354572) - 14

OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SECURITY MATTER - C

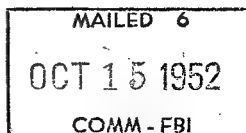
EX - 103

Reurlet dated October 1, 1952.

The Bureau does not have your letter of July 31, 1952, recommending a Security Index card on the subject. You are instructed to submit Form FD-122 recommending the subject for inclusion in the Security Index and appropriate action will be taken at the Bureau.

JTH:nlm

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Rm. _____
Nease _____
Gandy _____



OCT 12 2 00 PM '52

U S DEPT OF JUSTICE
FBI
RECEIVED - NEW YORK

77 OCT 20 1952

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

jar
TO : Director, FBI (100-354572)
FROM : SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)
SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SECURITY MATTER - C

DATE: 10-1-52

off
Re Kansas City letter dated 7-31-52, recommending
a Security Index card be prepared on the above captioned
individual.

No reply has been received from the Bureau to date.

FMF:mlb

RECORDED - 123

100-354572-14
EX-92 6 OCT 6 1952 *JVE*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-354572)

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SM-C

DATE: October 24, 1952

3 X 5 Card
Card Filed

11-12-52 By

X It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON

ALIASES

NATIVE BORN X NATURALIZED ALIEN COMMUNIST X SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) TAB FOR DETCOM TAB FOR COMSAB RACE White SEX MaleDATE OF BIRTH 9-23-84 ¹⁹⁸⁴ _{10/26} PLACE OF BIRTH Holliday, KansasBUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) Route 2, Spring Hill, KansasNATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List) FarmerRESIDENCE ADDRESS Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas

LEW:LAC

RECORDED - 44

EX - 80

100-354572-15
12 OCT 27 1952

43963

7-115
62 NOV 17 1952

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form No. 3

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KANSAS CITY**

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT: KANSAS CITY	DATE WHEN MADE: 7/8/53	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: 6/25; 7/1/53	REPORT MADE BY: SA DOUGLAS J. WILLIAMS cko
TITLE: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON			CHARACTER OF CASE: SECURITY MATTER - C

SUMMARY REPORT

JOHNSON has sent contribution to JAMES FOREST, District Organizer, State of Missouri, Communist Party, USA, who was arrested for violation of the Smith Act in St. Louis, Mo. He has written letters protesting arrests under the Smith Act.

5-1,2

DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND

(a) Residence:

T - 8, of unknown reliability,

advised the subject is still employed on his farm at Rural Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas.

II. MISCELLANEOUS

COPIES DESTROYED

44 OCT 25 1962

Information was received on August 11, 1952 that on August 8, 1952 OTIS JOHNSON, Rural Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas, had written to STEVE NELSON, who is Chairman of District 5, Communist Party, USA. NELSON on that date was incarcerated in the Allegheny County Jail, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, having been convicted and sentenced to twenty years for violation of the Pennsylvania Anti-Sedition Law of 1939.

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	COPY IN FILE SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	100-354-72-16	RECORDED AND INDEXED: RECORDED - 55 INDEXED - 55
COPIES OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: 5 - Bureau (100-354,572) (Registered) 3 - Kansas City (100-1717) - 287		BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE ROUTED TO: 	CHECKED OFF: JACKETED:

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

7-1983

KC 100-1717

T - 2, of known reliability, advised on September 24, 1952 that GORDON MONROE had addressed a letter to the "Daily Worker" on January 25, 1952 requesting that a "Worker" subscription for one year be sent to O. W. JOHNSON at Spring Hill, Kansas.

GORDON MONROE, according to T - 9, of known reliability, in 1946 presided over a meeting of the Henry Winston Club, a Kansas City Branch of the Communist Party, and that MONROE was, himself, a Communist. *MO*

T - 3, of known reliability, advised that a letter dated November 15, 1952 at Spring Hill, Kansas, over the signature of OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON had been directed to U.S. Attorney GEORGE L. ROBERTSON. This letter states in part that the arrest of JIM FOREST is a wide spread violation of civil rights based on a charge of reading books and attending a meeting. He claimed that people do not like to see their civil liberties trampled upon, "That was Hitler's method." The concluding paragraph reads as follows:

"People all over the world are citing these cases to prove that U.S. Democracy is breaking down and that Imperialism is the power behind the throne."

JAMES FOREST, according to T - 10, of known reliability, is State Chairman of the Communist Party of the State of Missouri with headquarters at St. Louis, Missouri.

On November 20, 1952 the National Guardian contained a letter from OTIS W. JOHNSON, farmer, Spring Hill, Kansas, which states as follows:

"In We Can Be Friends CARL MARZANI says: 'Even to me it seems unbelievable that men, human beings, should gamble so recklessly with the peace of the world. Yet records speaks for itself: these men stand condemned out of their own mouths . . . the mind shrinks from its satanic barbarism.'

"MARZANI has forged a mighty weapon for PEACE, one of the great books of our time. It is our job to get it to our people."

The National Guardian, according to the 1949

KC 100-1717

Report of the California Committee on Un-American Activities was cited as a publication watched in New York in 1948 aiming at National circulation, which was found to be from conception notoriously Stalanistic in its staff, writers and management.

T - 4, of known reliability, on December 4, 1952 advised that JAMES FREDERICK FOREST, a defendant in the Smith Act arrests, who had been unable to make bond and was confined at the City Jail, St. Louis, Missouri, on December 4, 1952 had received a letter from OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON (farmer), Rural Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas. This letter was dated November 29, 1952. JOHNSON states:

"Friend JIM,

"Sorry to hear of the raw deal you and your wife got from the Smith Act boys. Until yesterday I have been unable to get your address. I have written several letters protesting your treatment, you may use my name openly any time you wish. You know what a strangle hold they have upon a poor devil that works in a mill, mine or office, or even a tenant farmer, they don't hesitate to fire them or injury them in any way they can in this free country of ours.

"The same, of course, is true of ones chosen for juries, if the "ladies and gentlemen of the jury" were able to look them in the eye and tell them to go straight to hell; you know and the Smith Act boys know that they would handle down different decisions in all cases where the powerful classes are trying to jail the ones who speak out for peace and a better world.

"One thing is certain. They cannot stigmatize your good name by pretending your activities are criminal, jailing such is one true path to renown. Some day an agonized people will forget their fear and defy their tormentors. I have made a small donation for your defense and will see if I can interest others, if I can do anything for you, let me know, this is for peace.

/s/ OTIS WM. JOHNSON (farmer)

P.S.

KC 100-1717

"Thanks for the book, 'The Birth and Death of the Son' by GWG and owj."

T - 5, of known reliability, on March 3, 1953 advised that on February 25, 1953 a check had been deposited to the account of the St. Louis Emergency Defense Committee in the amount of \$5.00 drawn on the account of OTIS M. JOHNSON, Rural Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas. This check was No. 102 made payable to JAMES FOREST endorsed by him for deposit only to the account of the Emergency Defense Committee. The St. Louis Emergency Defense Committee, according to T - 11, of known reliability, had been set up on September 17, 1952 to raise funds for the arrested St. Louis Communist Party leaders and to stimulate public reaction on their behalf.

T - 6, of known reliability, advised that a communication had been sent to Judge HARRY M. MONTGOMERY, Court of Common Pleas, Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON, Spring Hill, Kansas, dated January 16, 1953. This letter states:

"Dear Sir:

I write you about these in-famous-"Smith ACT"-frame-ups, that are sweeping the Nation like a Grasshopper Scourge. It seems to the common man that a strange breed of judges are being hatched in these days of hysteria, such types as Kaufman, Medina, Musssmano, a son of Fascist Italy and many others, men who are willing to support the aggressive policies of our Filthy Super-Rich, both home and abroad. At present these cases are arousing more interest in Europe and Asia than here at home - but don't be deceived, the low note of protest that you hear today will grow into tumultuous thunder to-morrow. I am protesting now about the Brutal Treatment accorded "Steve Nelson" in your Blawnox Prison Hole--Steve Nelson is known all over the world and loved as a fighter for the rights of the people and a staunch champion of PEACE. All who seek to obey the mandates of our War Mongering class, are skating on thin ice - Even our Farm Papers are bringing these facts to the people and we are going to be "Eternally-Vigilant," because we know that is the price of LIBERTY.

Yours for HUMANITY and JUSTICE,

/s/ Otis Wm. Johnson (farmer)"

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - SECURITY INFORMATION

Information was received from T - 7, of unknown reliability that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON had addressed a letter to this individual, a school teacher, in which he states in part that the United States committed atrocities in Korea and that "there is a mountain of evidence supporting the charge of germ warfare by the U.S. Air Force." He states that scientist of six countries and six captured U.S. Airmen verified as to the truth of this charge. He also makes the statement that there is enough evidence now to prove that South Korea backed by the United States started the war in Korea. He also makes the statement that the ruling class terms communistic aggression the revolt of the people against Imperialist exploitation, poverty and misery.

T - 8, mentioned previously, advised that he does not believe that the subject is a member of the Communist Party. He stated as the basis for this belief that the Communist Party would not want in its membership a person who was so indiscreet as the subject.

C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ - SECURITY INFORMATION

KC 100-1717

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS:

Identity of Source	Date of Activity of Desc. of Info.	Date Received	Agent Receiving	Location
T-1, ALEX BRADLEY, Allegheny County Sheriff's Office, Pittsburgh, Pa.	8/8/52	8/11/52	SA THOMAS T. WILKINSON	100-1717-84
T-2, [REDACTED]	1/25/52	9/24/52	SA J. GIBLER and SE A. W. CONROY	100-8075- 1A18
T-3, U.S. Attorney GEORGE L. ROBERTSON	11/15/52	11/15/52	SA CARL R. O'CONNOR	100-1717-94
T-4, Warden HENSLEY, City Jail, St. Louis, Mo.	11/29/52	12/4/52	SA CARL R. O'CONNOR	100-1717-97
T-5, RALPH M. FOX, Vice-President, Easton Taylor Trust Co., St. Louis, Mo.	Check of OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON.	3/3/53	SA JOHN E. CONNOR	100-1717-111
T-6, ELIZABETH M. SCHWAB, Secretary, Judge Montgomery	Letter to Judge HARRY M. MONT- GOMERY.	2/27/53	SA WILLIAM C. HENDRICKS, JR.	100-1717-109
T-7, HELEN BRADFORD, sister of GUY BRAD- FORD, Manager of Argentine Force No. 111, Kansas City, Kans.	Letter to Miss BRADFORD from subject.	4/29/53	--	100-1717- 1A13
T-8, [REDACTED] [REDACTED]	Information re- garding CP member- ship.	6/25/53	SAS ROBERT G. BURKE and GEORGE KEEFER	Instant report

KC 100-1717

T-9, Characterization
of GORDON MONROE.

T-10, Characterization
of JAMES FOREST.

T-11, Characterization
of St. Louis
Emergency Defense
Committee.

REFERENCE:

Report of SA LOWELL E. WILLIAMS dated 7/31/52 at Kansas City.

File No.: 146-1-29

100-354

Office of Origin: [redacted] ty

Name: OTIS W. JOHNSON

Address: Rural Route 2 (farm)
Spring Hill, Kansas

Born (Country & Date): U.S., 9/23/84

If Naturalized

(a) Year

(b) Prior Nationality:

Occupation: Farmer

Employer: Self-employed
above address

If Alien, Nationality:

Last Report Reviewed: 7/8/53 (SS)
7/31/52 (S)

Last Activity:

Organizations:

Activities:

BUREAU ADDENDUM:

Enclosure to memorandum dated
8-2-53, from the AAG in Charge
of the Criminal Division approving the
name of captioned individual for inclusion
in the Security Index. Approval appears in
100-398030-53.

Just
FIVE

71

Remarks:

RECORDED - 58

100-354572

SEP 9 1953

21

Standards Applicable (Circle): IA, IBa, IBb, IBc, IBd, IBe, II, III.

Processed by:

Date:

Positive ☐ Negative ☐

Reviewed by:

Date:

Positive ☐ Negative ☐

SEP 15 1953
FBI Notified: (Date)

(Initials)

A.E. Leonard

April 13, 1954

RECORDED - 43

100-354572-18

Honorable Errett P. Scribner
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

My dear Congressman:

Mr. Tolson has brought your letter of April 8, 1954, with enclosures, to my attention and has also informed me of the telephone call which his office received from your office on the same date.

It was indeed kind of you to bring Otis William Johnson's letter to this Bureau's attention, and I want you to know that we deeply appreciate your interest in this regard.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

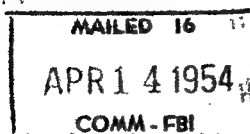
cc - Kansas City, with copy of incoming and copies of enclosures.

ATTENTION SAC: Johnson is identified with subject of your file 100-717.

Note: Bufiles reflect that Congressman Scribner in February, 1948, referred 3 letters to the Bureau which he had received from Johnson. Otis William Johnson is a Security Index subject of the Kansas City Office.

Mr. Tolson's Office has advised that Congressman Scribner's Office called on 4/8/54 advising that several years ago the Congressman's Office had furnished the Bureau with information on Otis William Johnson. Mr. Scribner's Office further advises that they had received another letter from Johnson, and they desired to send it to the Bureau inasmuch as it might be of interest to us.

Tolson
Ladd
Nichols
Belmont
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Gandy
Miss Gandy



ERRETT P. SCRIVNER
20th DISTRICT, KANSAS

R. C. JONES, SECRETARY

CLERK:
DORIS B. UNDERWOOD

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C. April 8, 1954.

Mr. Clyde A. Tolson, *V.M.*
Associate Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C. *(initials)* *Mr. Tolson*

Rm 5744

Dear Mr. Tolson:

O. W. Johnson Jr 5-1

Apropos the telephone conversation which my office
had with your office to-day, I am sending you for association
with the Bureau file a letter I have just received from one
Otis W. Johnson, of Spring Hill, Kansas. This is the same
Johnson whose name I referred to the Bureau some seven or
eight years ago, at which time nothing positive was learned
in the FBI inquiry, more than what was implied in the corres-
pondence. This communication indicates he is still carrying
the torch for some country "far more powerful" than the USA.
This may some time tie in with something more concrete.

Sincerely yours,

Errett P. Scrivner
Errett P. Scrivner

EX. - 104

RECORDED - 43

100-354592-18

10 APR 1954

22

4/10/54

*ack
4-13-54
EJW*

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C. April 8, 1951.

Mr. Otis W. Johnson,
Spring Hill, Kansas.

Dear Mr. Johnson:

I am at a loss to fully comprehend the remarks in
your letter of April 6th.

Who is using the threat of the hydrogen bomb?
What nations are we frightening; and, What nations are far
more powerful?

What nonsense of ours will cause who to lose
patience?

And, How will they (whoever "they" may be) write
us off?

I am for peace, too, and the more peace there is
throughout the world the better I'll like it. How would
you suggest we get it?

Awaiting a reply, I am

Sincerely yours,

Errett P. Scrivner

100-354572-18
ENCLOSURE

Spring Hill, Kansas.
April 1-6-54.

Rep. Errett P. Scrivner;

Dear Congressman,

None of our youth to die in the
jungles of Indochina for John Foster Dulles and Co.-Stop using
the threat of the Hydrogen Bomb to frighten other nations that
are far more powerful than we are-- Remember there is such a thing
that they may lose patience with our nonsense and write us off.

Yours for Peace,

Otis Wm. Johnson (farmer)

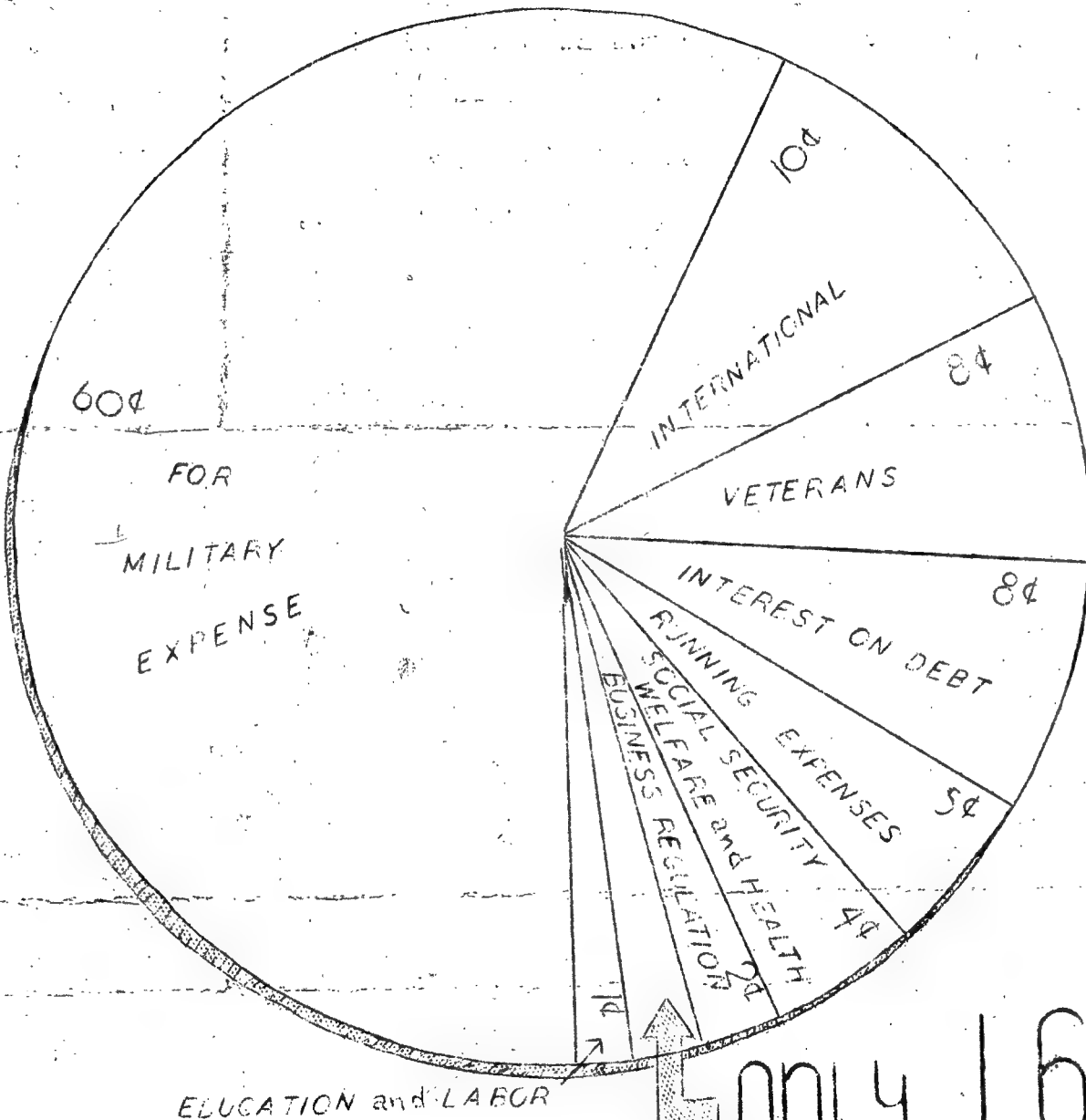
O. W. Johnson

100-354572-18

TAXES

THIS IS HOW YOUR TAX DOLLAR IS SPENT IN THE

1953 FEDERAL BUDGET



ONLY 1.6¢
FOR AGRICULTURE

AID TO AGRICULTURE IS NOT COSTLY

FARMERS UNION STANDS FOR 100% OF PARITY FOR ALL FARM COMMODITIES

15 APR 1954

Of 51

g

File
Viper 50

4/9/54

Congressman Scrivener's office called yesterday advising that several years ago the Bureau was furnished by that office information on Otis W. Johnson; that they desired to send the attached to the Bureau in the event it might be of interest to the Bureau. They said they would send it to Mr. Tolson.

DSS

G. I. R. -1

A

RECORDED - 43

EX - 104

100-354572-19

RECORDED

13 APR 22 1954

10 50 PM

WB 10ME

CRIME

15218

52 MAY 5 1954

Spring Hill, Kans.,

April-21-54.

Congressman Scrivner,

82795

Dear Sir:

You say-"I am at a loss to fully comprehend the remarks in your letter of April-6th."--Let me remind you of-"The babes in the woods"..it seems this lack of understanding is a general affliction of our political and military leaders.--Ike, said,-"I have'nt read a book in nine years".-I am of the opinion many of you have'nt read a book in twenty-nine years,I even beleive that many among the loud speakers can even read. As an example of the importance of FACTS, let us go back just a few years in History and re-read Edgar Snow's book-"Red Star Over China",as the old saying puts it--" A word to the wise is sufficient".-Remember that students of History and world affairs are not fooled or mis-led by the trite sayings and shibboleths of porly educated Politicoes.-When I make mention of -"Students of History".I refer to ones who took seriously their persual of history,Biology,Geology and Astronomy,they who are not the finished products of the Church,Sunday school,Press and Radio.-There are many books recently off the press you could read to great advantage,one "We can be Friends"-tells of a statement of Trumans, speaking of the atom bomb just before-Hiroshima-"If it works,and I think it will,what a hammer I will have over those boys."-meaning the Russians.-The past several years,the press and radio of the U.S.has been full to overflowing with threats of the A and H bombs against China and Russia,what of the some one hundred and fifty bases and air fields that is a living threat to the PEACE and security of the U.S.S.R.? See-"Bases and Empire".-It seems to me you have spent the past several years in some secluded Ivory tower.

ENCLOSURE

100-354572 -20

Are you aware-Mr.Scrivner that to-day China is a First Class Military Power-a sleeping giant ,Napoleon said -"If she awakes she will shake the earth".-This Napoleon was a military genius,with sixty battles under his belt,most of them victories,there was Gengis Kahn there was Hannibal there was the youthful Alexander and many more whoes reputations are made secure by battles fought and won.-Now we come to one and I doubt if you are acquainted with his ability as a military genius.-Lin Paio-Who as Edgar Snow says -"Had fought and won one hundred battles before he was Twenty three years old,he has never lost a battle.-You no doubt beleive that Mc Arthur is a great General,but where is his Marengos,Lodis, Austerlitz or a Lake Trasimene?-Now we come to The Third Battle of Bull Run,it began on the Yalu River,North Korea,Gen.Douglass Mc Arthur-commander-in-chief of the U.N.Army,this is the same general that won the great battle of Anacostia Flats,Penn.Ave.Washington D.C.-Lin Paio commanded the Chinese Volunteers-The result-The greatest defeat ever inflicted on American Arms. perhaps the one inflicted by Von Rundstedt at The Battle of the Bulge,on our Ike was an exception.-It is clear that the vast majority of our leaders have always underestimated the power and strength and unity of the Soviet Union, they have a rabid hate and nothing else and hate alone would not win a world war-you should know our so called allies will fade away like the mist before the morning sun when the fighting begins-we have the reactionary leaders on our side-but not the people.-Take a good look at the map of the world. does it tell you anything?---Now don't come back and tell me that I am un-patriotic-because that is not true in any sense-I certainly do not love the Five leading families of this nation that would blindly drag us into a war we could not win,not for the benefit of our people but to protect their foreign investments and to beat back the rising tide of Socialism--I want PEACE because I want America to have a future,stay out of Indo-China.

Yours for PEACE,

Otis Wm.Johnson (farmer)

Otis Wm Johnson

Is This Parity For Farmers?

U. S. LEVELS OF LIVING - FARM & NON-FARM

TAKING NON-FARM AS 100% OF PARITY



HOUSEHOLD
FACILITIES



PHYSICIANS



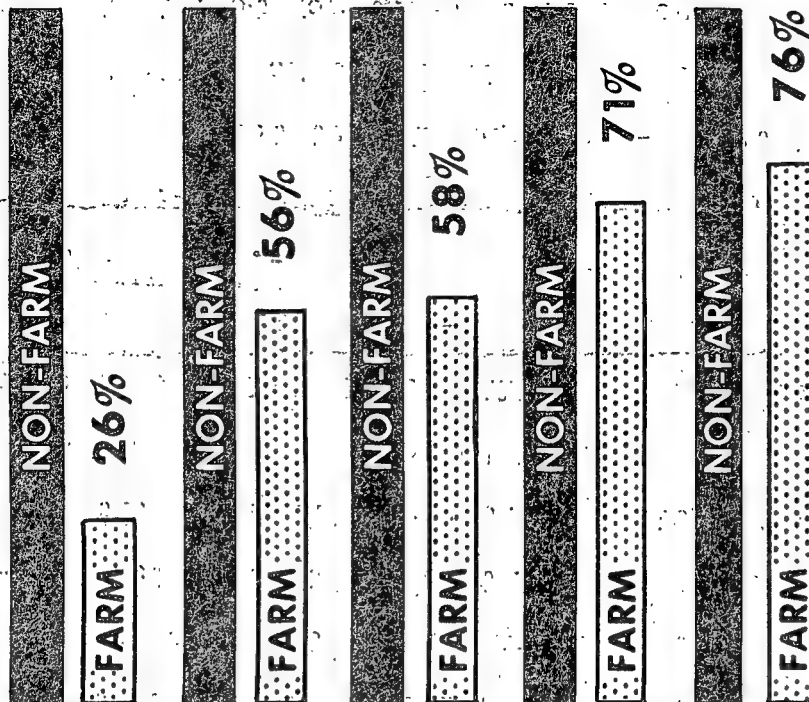
INCOME
PER CAPITA



SCHOOL
EXPENDITURES
PER CAPITA



BIRTHS IN
HOSPITALS



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 47429-XX BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Figure 15 - Average differences in several level of living items for farm and non-farm people are shown above. Farm incomes have since improved and the number of farms with electricity has shown a sharp increase, but farm levels of living over

wide areas are still below the nonfarm level. The household facilities item is a composite grouping of households having electric lights, bathtub or shower, running water in the house, and installed cooking stoves.

REVISED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, NATIONAL FARMERS UNION

April 28, 1954

Honorable Errett P. Scriuner
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

My dear Congressman:

Your letter dated April 24, 1954, addressed to Mr. Clyde A. Tolson, together with the enclosed letter from Otis William Johnson, Spring Hill, Kansas, has been brought to my attention.

Your courtesy and thoughtfulness in transmitting the material to this Bureau are indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
J. Edgar Hoover

cc - 1 - Kansas City (with copy of incoming & enclosure)
cc - 1 - Omaha (with copy of incoming & enclosure)

Bufiles disclose that copy of Congressman Scriuner's letter dated April 8, together with the enclosure, concerning Otis William Johnson, Security Index subject of the Kansas City Office, Kansas City file 100-717, were furnished to Kansas City by copy of Bulet dated 4-13-54, addressed to Congressman Scriuner. (100-354572)

Johnson's letter, a copy of which is enclosed for Kansas City and Omaha, was written on the back of two leaflets of the National Farmers Union. One leaflet is captioned "Is This Party for Farmers?" which allegedly reflects statistics issued by the United States Department of Agriculture comparing facilities and services that are available to farm and non-farm families. The other leaflet

COMM - FBI

APR 28 1954

MAILED 31

MJR:rw

Tolson _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Gearty _____
Mohr _____
Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

20 MAY 10 1954

~~leaflet~~
is captioned "Taxes" which contains a chart reflecting breakdown of expenditures in the 1953 Federal Budget and points out that only 1.6¢ of each dollar was for agriculture.

The National Farmers Union, in which case Omaha is office of origin, Omaha file 100-536, has been described as Communist infiltrated.

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F. B. I.
JUN 50 10 10 AM '20
REC'D-10120M.2 OFFICE

ERRETT P. SCRIVNER
2D DISTRICT, KANSAS

R. C. JONES, SECRETARY

CLERK:
DORIS B. UNDERWOOD

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C. April 24, 1954.

Mr. Clyde A. Tolson,
Associate Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Boardman _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tamm _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Winterrowd _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Miss Gandy _____

Dear Mr. Tolson:

In further connection with my letter of
April 8th, there is enclosed another letter just
received from Otis William Johnson, Spring Hill,
Kansas, which pretty clearly reflects the source
of his information and the character of his think-
ing.

This is for association with his file
and such further attention to Johnson's activities
as the FBI may find warranted.

Sincerely yours,

Errett P. Scrivner

RECORDED - 21
INDEXED - 21

EX-127

100 - 354572 - 20
10 APR 29 1954

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

G. I. R. -1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

KANSAS CITY

REPORT MADE AT KANSAS CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 9-30-54	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9/23, 24/54	REPORT MADE BY DOUGLAS J. WILLIAMS MEJ
TITLE OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON			CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

JOHNSON has corresponded with the American Russian Institute, Civil Rights Congress, and St. Louis Emergency Defense Committee during the past year.

- C -

DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUND

A. Residence and Employment

T-4, of known reliability, advised on various dates that subject is still employed as a farmer at his residence, Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas.

II. MISCELLANEOUS

On July 2, 1953, T-1, of known reliability, advised that he had received correspondence protesting the alleged mistreatment of STEVE NELSON at the Allegheny County Work House. STEVE NELSON was Chairman of District No. 5, Communist Party, and was incarcerated at the above institution after he was sentenced to twenty years imprisonment for violation of the Pennsylvania Anti-Sedition law of 1939. In his letter

COPIES DESTROYED
44 OCT 25 1962

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>W.D.S.</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 Bureau (100-354572) (REGISTERED) 3 Kansas City (100-1717) COPY IN FILE 143		100-354572- IML OCT 8 5 35 PM '54 24 OCT 6 1954 RECORDED-20 7-12

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U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-58255-2

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

KC 100-1717

JOHNSON states, "NELSON's case is a frame-up, and our people know it. The filthy super rich behind it have the GALL to ask our boys to die in faraway Korea for what they call FREEDOM." This letter was dated January 16, 1953.

On February 9, 1953, T-2, of known reliability, furnished a mailing list to be used by the St. Louis Emergency Defense Committee. The purpose of this list was to attempt to raise bail and defense funds and to solicit support for five persons residing in St. Louis charged with violation of the Smith Act. T-2 stated that since its inception the Committee has been under the control and domination of the Communist Party in St. Louis. The name of O. W. JOHNSON, Spring Hill, Kansas, appeared on this list.

T-3, of unknown reliability, advised on December 8, 1953 that he was related to JOHNSON and that he had recently received information that JOHNSON intended to go to Los Angeles during the winter of 1953-1954. T-3 stated that OTIS JOHNSON has always been a radical, running down the capitalists, and it is this informant's opinion that JOHNSON might be a Communist, although he has never actually discussed Communism or mentioned Russia to the informant.

T-4, of known reliability, on February 22, 1954 advised that on February 17, 1954, O. W. JOHNSON had returned to this section of the country from visiting in California. On that date JOHNSON mentioned to the informant several times that the Communists in California did not seem to feel as worried as they were in the East, as they have more public meetings and similar activities.

On May 17, 1954, T-4 advised that

On June 1, 1954, T-4 advised that the previous day, May 31, 1954, he had received information that O. W. JOHNSON had purchased the following books:

"The Negro People in American History"
by WILLIAM Z. FOSTER, price \$6.00

One pamphlet entitled "Laureats of Imperialism", by HERBERT APTHEKER, price 60¢

One pamphlet entitled "Science and Society", price 50¢

T-5, of known reliability, advised on March 2, 1954 that he had received information that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON, Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas, had had a subscription to The Worker, which expired February 17, 1954. The Worker is the Sunday edition of the Daily Worker, an East Coast Communist publication.

T-6, of known reliability, advised that he had received a letter from OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON dated April 21, 1954, in which JOHNSON compares General DOUGLAS MacARTHUR unfavorably with General LIN PAIO, who "commanded the Chinese volunteers", stating that their battle at the Yalu River, North Korea, was the greatest defeat ever inflicted on American arms. He also stated it was clear that the vast majority of our leaders have always underestimated the power, strength, and unity of the Soviet Union. Concluding JOHNSON stated: "I certainly do not love the Five leading families of this nation that would blindly drag us into a war we could not win, not for the benefit of our people but to protect their foreign investments and to beat back the rising tide of Socialism--I want PEACE because I want America to have a future, stay out of Indo-China."

T-7, of known reliability, advised that in 1953 the American Russian Institute, Inc. of San Francisco published a book entitled "We Pledge Peace - a Friendship Book". The American Russian Institute, Inc. has been designated by the U. S. Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450. The book is made up of letters or quotations from individuals throughout the United States and a number of foreign countries, including the U.S.S.R., which generally comment on the desirability of peace and friendship between the United States and the U.S.S.R. One of these items quoted was headed "OTIS W. JOHNSON, farmer, Spring Hill, Kansas", and states:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

KC 100-1717

"Our countrymen should lay aside their fear and speak out boldly for peace and friendship with all nations. It is high time we get busy on that task of hammering and shaping the implements of war into ploughshares of peace in order to abolish even the fear of want from the human mind.

Peace depends on American-Soviet friendship."

T-8, of known reliability, advised that he had received information on July 21, 1954 to the effect that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON had contributed \$5.00 to the "Defense Committee for WILLIAM L. PATTERSON", an adjunct of the Civil Rights Congress. The Civil Rights Congress has been designated by the U. S. Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450. This contribution was received by the Civil Rights Congress on March 12, 1951, and shows JOHNSON's residence as Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas.

T-9, of known reliability, advised that he had received information to the effect that JOHNSON had made a contribution to the Civil Rights Congress on June 25, 1952. This information was received by informant on June 17, 1954. The contribution was in the amount of \$5.00 and showed JOHNSON's address as Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas.

T-10, of known reliability, advised that on August 7, 1954, OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON had written a letter to St. Louis protesting the conviction of the Smith Act defendants in that city. In part he says: "We Americans in the past have stood for a lot of nonsense from them..." (organized wealth) "but when they so flagrantly and openly threaten our liberties such as free speech, opinions and a free press then I think it high time we assert our rights as Americans."

- C -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 4 -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

KC 100-1717

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity And/or Description of Information</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Agent to whom Furnished</u>	<u>File Number where Located</u>
T-1 LAWRENCE A. KEENAN County Workhouse, Blawnox, Pa.	Correspondence re STEVE NELSON	7/2/53	JOHN E. McCURRY	100-1717-1A-14
T-2 [REDACTED]	Mailing list of SLEDG	2/9/53	SA CLAUDE E. WILLIS, JR.	[REDACTED]
T-3 MYRON ERNEST FOSTER 4847 Vista De Oro Ave. Los Angeles, Calif.	Communist sympathy	12/8/53	J. K. CROWE	100-1717-123
T-4 [REDACTED]	2/17/54 Contribution to SLEDG	2/22/54	R. G. BURKE	[REDACTED]
	5/30/54	5/17/54	" "	" "
		6/1/54	" "	" "
T-5 [REDACTED]	Daily Worker Record	3/2/54	SA E.K.DEANE SE V.H.McPEAK	100-1717-1A1-1
T-6 Congressman ERRETT P. SCRIVNER RR	4/24/54		Bureau	100-1717-139
T-7 [REDACTED]	Furnished copy of "We Pledge Peace"	10/6/53	GERALD D. OAKLEY	[REDACTED]
T-8 [REDACTED]	Contribution to C.R.C.	7/21/54	SA M.J.BARRETT SE K.F.BUCKLEY	100-1717-1A-17
T-9 [REDACTED]	Contribution to C.R.C.	6/17/54	ARTHUR P. HEALEY	100-1717-1A1-2
T-10 E. E. KOCH	Letter to KOCH	8/24/54	CARL R. O'CONNOR	100-1717-1A1-3

REFERENCE: Report of SA DOUGLAS J. WILLIAMS dated 7-8-53 at Kansas City

SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

January 14, 1955

Director, FBI (100-354572) - 22

RECORDED - 43
 OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
 SECURITY MATTER - C
 Kansas City Office of Origin

811 - X3

Re Kansas City letter January 4, 1955.

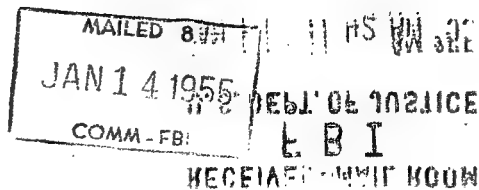
Los Angeles should verify Johnson's temporary residence, 12591 Luraleen, Garden Grove, California, promptly and advise Kansas City. Latter office should submit FD-122 showing permanent Kansas City residence and temporary residence at the verified California address as soon as possible in order that Security Index cards will show current information.

2cc - Los Angeles (100-26113)

NOTE ON YELLOW. Subject in ST. visiting son in California

JHG:ejp
 (6)

Tolson _____
 Boardman _____
 Nichols _____
 Belmont _____
 Harbo _____
 Mohr _____
 Parsons _____
 Rosen _____
 Tamm _____
 Sizoo _____
 Winterrowd _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holloman _____
 Gandy _____



58 JAN 18 1955 F26

JAN 11 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-354572)

FROM : *WDS* SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

DATE: 1/4/55

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SECURITY MATTER - C
Kansas City - Origin

mb

G.I.R. 8

26-5-1

[redacted] recently advised that the above subject departed from Kansas City, Missouri, on December 13, 1954 enroute to the Los Angeles area to visit his son, ROBERT R. JOHNSON, 12591 Luraleen, Garden Grove, California.

[redacted]

For the information of the Los Angeles Office, OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON is a Security Index subject of the Kansas City Office and has been sympathetic toward the Communist movement for many years. JOHNSON is reputed to have a violent temper and may have firearms.

In view of the fact that he apparently intends to have an extended vacation in California, the above is being furnished for the information of the Los Angeles Division.

Inasmuch as this subject has moved to California only for vacation purposes and apparently has no intention of making permanent residence in California, a request is not being made to change the office of origin nor to send the Security Index Cards for JOHNSON to the Los Angeles Office.

Registered Mail

2 - Los Angeles (100-26113) (Registered Mail)
RGB/hmg
(5)

RECORDED - 8

INDEXED - 8

100-354572-22

JAN 7 1955

EX-110

FBI

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-354572)

JFM
JFM FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-26113)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON;
SECURITY MATTER - C.
(OO: Kansas City)

DATE: 1/19/55

BP ReBulet dated January 14, 1955, and mylet to
Kansas City dated January 13, 1955.

Inasmuch as Garden Grove, California, is in
Orange County, which territory is covered by the San Diego
office, one copy of referenced Bulet is enclosed for San
Diego for appropriate action.

P

REGISTERED

(5)

JCFM:bla

cc: San Diego (encl. 1) (REGISTERED)

1-2

RECORDED - 4

EX-121

100-354572-23

20 JAN 24 1955

899
60 JAN 26 1955

INT. SEC.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-354572)
 FROM : SAC, SAN DIEGO (100-10522)
 SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
 SECURITY MATTER - C
 (OO: KANSAS CITY)

DATE: 2/2/55

Rebulet to Kansas City, 1/14/55, a copy of which was directed to the Los Angeles Office, instructing that the address of captioned individual at 12591 Luraleen, Garden Grove, California, be verified as soon as possible.

Mrs. E. W. KING, 12571 Luraleen, Garden Grove, California, advised SA E. J. KIRBY on January 28, 1955, that OTIS JOHNSON is apparently the father of BOB JOHNSON who resides with his wife, MARIE, at 12591 Luraleen Street. Mrs. KING continued that OTIS JOHNSON and his wife are visiting in Southern California for the winter. She said they resided with BOB JOHNSON and his family for a short time, but are now residing at either the Venetian Court or the Venetian Square in Long Beach, California.

For information, BOB JOHNSON is employed at the Marie Callender Bakery in Long Beach.

Mrs. JAMES WALLACE, Postmaster, Garden Grove, advised that OTIS JOHNSON continues to receive mail at 12591 Luraleen Street.

The records of the Businessmen's Association (Credit Bureau) and of the Orange County Sheriff's Office reflect no record of OTIS JOHNSON.

No identifying data is available to this office.

Los Angeles is requested to determine subject's place of residence and advise Kansas City and the Bureau.

RUC.

EJK:WAC

cc: Kansas City (100-1717) RECORDED-31
 Los Angeles (2) (100-26113) INDEXED-31

REGISTERED

LEB 10 1955 FEB 7 1955

EX-125

60 FEB 10 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-354572)

DATE: 3/1/55

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SECURITY MATTER - C
(Origin - Kansas City)

Rebulet to Kansas City, copies to Los Angeles, 1/14/55.

On February 24, 1955, [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, advised that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON returned from California on February 22, 1955 and is now residing on his farm, Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas.

REGISTERED MAIL

DJW/hmg

(4)

1 cc: Los Angeles (info) (100-26113) (REG. MAIL)

RECORDED-57 100-354572-25

MAR 4 1955

EX-124
MAR 3 3 05 PM '55
RECEIVED

66 MAR 10 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-354572)

DATE: 3/22/55

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-26113)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SM-C

OO: KANSAS CITY

Re San Diego letter to the Director dated 2/2/55.

By pretext telephone inquiry on 3/4/55, it was ascertained from BOB JOHNSON, OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON's son, who is employed at the Marie Callendar Bakery, Long Beach, California, that OTIS JOHNSON departed last week on his return to Spring Hill, Kansas. Accordingly, it was ascertained that JOHNSON should be home as of this period, and can be reached in care of Rural Route #2, Spring Hill, Kansas.

- RUC -

EDT:mjb

REGISTERED

cc: Kansas City (100-1717) REGISTERED

(5)

EX-122

RECORDED - 30
INDEXED - 30100 - 354572
17 MAR 28 1955316
71 APR 4 1955

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-354572)

DATE: 5/12/55

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SECURITY MATTER - C

(a) Reference - SAC let 55-30, dated 4/12/55.

(b) Succinct resume of case

Subject is 70 years old, native born, a farmer. For years subject has praised Russia and condemned American form of government according to neighbors and acquaintances. He has told neighbors he has attended Communist Party meetings. He is a prolific letter writer and espouses the Communist Party line in his letters. He made donation to Smith Act Subjects in St. Louis. [redacted] who has furnished reliable information in the past [redacted]

[redacted] does not believe subject is a CP member as the Party would not want such an indiscreet person. JOHNSON has stated in the past to a neighbor he would support Russia in a war with the United States.

(c) Recommendation

Retain on Security Index as subject is reputed to be a man of violent temper and is indiscreet. Although reported not a CP member, he openly supports the Party and it is believed he is the type of person who in the event of an emergency would be capable of destructive action.

(d) Detcom Tabbing

1. Subject is not presently tabbed Detcom.
2. Subject does not fall within the criteria in SAC letter 55-12 (A), of 2/10/55. Security Index Cards have not been received from the Bureau bearing the stamp "Detcom" in large red letters.
3. It is not believed that this individual should be tabbed Detcom because of his age and the fact that he has had none of the training or experience mentioned in SAC let 55-12.

Registered Mail

DJW/hmg
(3)

RECORDED-45

27 MAY 16 1955

63 MAY 26 1955

INSEC

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

G. I. R. - I

Reporting Office KANSAS CITY	Office of Origin KANSAS CITY	Date 3-5-56	Investigative Period 3-1,2-56
TITLE OF CASE OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON		Report made by SA DOUGLAS J. WILLIAMS	Typed By: mlk
		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

Synopsis:

JOHNSON still resides on his farm at Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas. He has recently contributed \$5 to the "Daily Worker".

C

DETAILS:

All informants mentioned herein are of known reliability unless otherwise indicated.

I. BACKGROUND

A. Residence and Employment

T-5 advised on various dates that the subject is still employed as a farmer at his residence, Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas. He went to California for a vacation, and while there resided at Venetian Square, Ocean Front Hotel, Santa Cruz, California,

Approved <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: ④ - Bureau (100-354572) (RM) 1 - Los Angeles (100-26113) (RM) (Info.) 3 - Kansas City (100-1717)		100-354572-28	RECORDED - 40 INDEXED - 40
3 MAR 16 1956		8 MAR 9 1956	SUBV CONTROL
COPIES DESTROYED 44 OCT 25 1962		EX-127	

AGENCY **CCRAD**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. **3-16-56**
HOW FORW. **mlk**
BY **[Signature]**

3/15/57
0-1-3
[Signature]

3-15-57
3-21-57
[Signature]

FBI - This report is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside which loaned.

and Bonnie Brae in Long Beach, California. He was visiting a son, ROBERT JOHNSON, at 12591 Loreleen Street, Garden Grove, California.

On February 15, 1956, JOHNSON's name was observed on the mail box for Apartment 21, Island View Apartments, 841 West Seaside Boulevard, Long Beach, California.

T-5 informed on February 20, 1956, that JOHNSON's lease expired on February 28, 1956, at the Island View Apartments and that he was returning to Spring Hill, Kansas, possibly by way of San Francisco, California, where he would spend several days sightseeing.

II. MISCELLANEOUS

T-1, on various dates from October 20, 1954, to September 6, 1955, informed that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON, Rural Route 22, Spring Hill, Kansas, was the recipient of the publication "People's China".

T-6 stated that this publication is a fortnightly review published by the Foreign Language Press, Peking, China, which is in Communist China. It is printed in the English language. T-6 also informed that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON, Rural Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas, U. S. A., is the recipient of this same publication.

T-2 informed that the Civil Rights Congress, Harlem Division of New York City, maintained a list of individuals who had made donations to various Civil Rights Congress sponsored campaigns. Among the persons whose names were carried on this list was OTIS W. JOHNSON, "Route number 2, Spring Hill, Kansas, who was shown to have contributed \$10 on August 16, 1948."

T-3 advised on October 21, 1954, that the Communist Party had originated a variety of campaigns which were to be used as fund drives and were sponsored by various Communist Party front groups. The Civil Rights Congress was responsible in 1948 for several fund drives.

Both the Communist Party and the Civil Rights Congress have been designated by the Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

KC 100-1717

T-4 made available information on January 3, 1955, which indicated that OTIS W. JOHNSON had sent in a request for a renewal of his subscription to the "New World Review" when his existing subscription expired. The "New World Review" was formerly known as "Soviet Russia Today", which has been cited as a Communist front by the Public Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, on June 25, 1942, and March 29, 1944.

This same informant, on December 27, 1954, advised that on that date he had observed a letter, dated January 19, 1951, signed OTIS W. JOHNSON, bearing the return address Spring Hill, Kansas. This letter reads as follows:

"Spring Hill, Kansas.
Jan. 19th 1951.

"Soviet Russia Today:

"Find enclosed check for \$2.50. Two dollars donation and 50 cents for "Herbie Leningrad". No matter what the name the great amount of documentary material is the thing valuable, I recommend the close reading of your publication to Dreier, Beatty, Murrow and others.

"Yours Respectfully,

/s/ "Otis W. Johnson (farmer)

"P.S. I can do a short article on factual experience of a midwest American farmer, that might dispel many myths and false notions held by European people as to the high financial cultural status of the Average American farmer.

"I would accept no pay."

T-5 informed on March 30, 1955, [redacted]

[redacted] GORDON MONROE, described by this informant as the leading Communist Party member in the Kansas City area. MONROE had stated at that time that [redacted] should attempt to contact OTIS JOHNSON

KC 100-1717

and get him to come to Kansas City to try to sell Communist Party literature. On July 6, 1955, T-5 advised that on July 2, 1955, he had seen OTIS W. JOHNSON. [REDACTED]

On September 20, 1955, FRANK P. LAWLEY, JR., Assistant Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, State Capitol, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, made available correspondence which had been directed to the Governor of Pennsylvania regarding STEVE NELSON. STEVE NELSON was described by T-7, on July 1, 1955, as Chairman of District 5, Communist Party, United States of America, and as such the director of activities of the Communist Party in Western Pennsylvania.

Records of the Quarter Sessions Court, Allegheny County, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, reflect that on October 17, 1950, a True Bill was returned by a Grand Jury charging STEVE NELSON with violation of the Pennsylvania Anti-Sedition Law of 1939. The records of this court further reflect that NELSON was found guilty of the above charge on July 10, 1952, and was sentenced to serve twenty years in the Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, Workhouse and was fined \$10,000 and costs. On July 29, 1952, NELSON filed an appeal to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court, which on January 25, 1954, reversed the judgment in the case and quashed the indictment on the grounds that the United States Congress in passing the Smith Act had pre-empted jurisdiction in this type of case. On July 24, 1954, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania filed a petition requesting the Supreme Court of the United States to review the NELSON case.

Records of the United States District Court, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, reflect that NELSON was convicted for violation of the Smith Act of 1940 on August 20, 1953, and was sentenced to serve five years in a penitentiary-type institution. NELSON is presently at liberty under \$25,000 bond, pending an appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

Among the material furnished by Mr. LAWLEY was a letter from OTIS W. JOHNSON, dated August 4, 1952, at Spring Hill, Kansas. In this letter JOHNSON in part.

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KC 100-1717

states he is protesting against the infringements upon the human rights and that Fascism in this country seeks to destroy our civil liberties, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and the peaceful assemblage of the people. This is a typewritten letter, including the signature.

On September 10, 1952, JOHNSON wrote a letter to Governor FINE of Pennsylvania about the "outrageous treatment that Steve Nelson is receiving at the hands of a power mad group within your state". He said that a mass meeting was being planned for Kansas City and that "We also intend to acquaint the people of Europe, Asia and Africa with every detail of this illegal procedure."

On January 12, 1953, JOHNSON wrote another letter to Governor FINE, in which he included clippings from a newspaper concerning STEVE NELSON's imprisonment. Included in the clippings was a letter from his wife, MARGARET NELSON. JOHNSON protested against the alleged brutality in the Pennsylvania Prison System.

C

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FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

KC 100-1717

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity And/or Description of Information</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Agent to whom Furnished</u>	<u>File Number where Located</u>
T-1 ARTHUR GRADWOHL U. S. P. O. San Francisco, California	People's China	10-20-54 to 9-6-55	DOUGLAS G. ALLEN and PATRICK J. HAGGERTY, JR.	100-1717
T-2 NATHAN WASSERSTEIN Manager 53 West 125th Street New York City	CRC Records	8-6-54	ELLSWORTH GUSTAFSON and EARL C. McCOOL	100-1717-1A1-4
T-3 [REDACTED]	Characterization of CRC fund drives			
T-4 [REDACTED]	New World Review and Soviet Russia Today correspondence	1-3-55 12-27-54	MALCOLM J. BARRETT and SE FRANCIS W. MILLER	100-1717-1A1-5 100-1717-1A1-6
T-5 [REDACTED]	<i>Residence & employment</i> 3-29-55 7-2-55	2-20-56 3-30-55 7-6-55	ROBERT G. BURKE ROBERT G. BURKE	[REDACTED]
T-6 CLARENCE BERVEN Post Office Seattle, Washington	People's China	7-5-55	JOSEPH G. WALTERS	100-0-9914
T-7, [REDACTED]	Characterization of STEVE NELSON.			

The identity of the above informants was concealed by temporary symbol number because they were either security informants of the FBI, employees of the Post Office Department, or person who made available records of the Civil Rights Congress, whose identity should be concealed because of the nature of the records.

The Security Index card pertaining to this subject is in a current status and is correct. It is still felt that this subject should be retained on the Security Index because of his indiscreet nature, which would probably be turned to destructive action in the event of an emergency.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

KC 100-1717

LEADS

LOS ANGELES DIVISION: (INFORMATION)

An information copy is being forwarded to the Los Angeles office because serials and Security Index card were going to be forwarded to Los Angeles until it was learned through [REDACTED] that subject's vacation was terminating and he was returning to Kansas City.

REFERENCE

Report of SA DOUGLAS J. WILLIAMS dated September 30, 1954, at Kansas City.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (CONTINUED)

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-354572)

DATE: 1/16/57

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SM - C
Kansas City - OriginCard U.T.D.
JAN 30 1957

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

XX The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS _____

Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas (Permanent)

Island View Apartments, Apt 17, at 841

REG. MAIL

W. Seaside Blvd., Long Beach, Calif. (temporary)

bmg

60 JAN 31 1957

100-354572-
NOT RECORDED

24 JAN 1957

SUBV CONTROL

A.E. Leonard

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-354572)

DATE: 3/20/57

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SM - C
Kansas City - OriginCard U.T.D.
MAR 28 1957

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

XX The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS ☒ Route 2, Spring Hill, KansasREGISTERED MAIL
hmg

(3) 2 MAR 29 1957

SUBV. CONTROL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office KANSAS CITY	Office of Origin KANSAS CITY	Date 3/22/57	Investigative Period 3/18/57
TITLE OF CASE OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON		Report made by SA L. KEITH WILLIAMS	Typed By: fs
		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

Synopsis:

Subject resides Route #2, Spring Hill, Kansas, and is self employed as a farmer. Confidential informant has advised subject continues to have association with known Communists in the Kansas City area.

- C -

DETAILS:

BACKGROUND

RESIDENCE AND EMPLOYMENT

T-1, who has reported reliable information in the past, advised on March 18, 1957, that subject continues to make his residence at Route #2, Spring Hill, Kansas. T-1 further stated subject returned this date from temporarily residing at 841 West Seaside Boulevard, Long Beach, California. According to T-1 subject is self employed as a farmer.

*4/18 1-1
Hiro City Rept. will
Adv. Bd. 4/11/58
re rubm. 3/31/58
Jed*

Approved [Signature]	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: ④-Bureau (100-354572)(RM) 1-Los Angeles (100-26413)(Info)(RM) 3-Kansas City (100-1717)		100-354572-29	RECORDED EX-117 99
		23 MAR 25 1957	
COPIES DESTROYED 44 OCT 25 1962			

AGENCY **RHB**
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. **3-28-57**
HOW FORW. **0-6**
BY **JHG/BMW**

*498 58 10 28 AM '57
SUBV. CONTROL
REC'D
3/21/58
0-1-1+3
JG*

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KC 100-1717

ACTIVITIES

T-1 advised on April 3, 1956, that on March 28, 1956, GORDON MONROE stated that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON should be contacted to determine if he would contribute toward the salary of a new district organizer of the Communist Party.

T-1 advised on April 3, 1956, that GORDON MONROE is a member of the Communist Party and a leading figure in the Kansas City area.

T-1 advised on April 3, 1956, that on April 1, 1956, subject purchased a copy of the "Worker".

The "Worker" is the Sunday edition of the "Daily Worker", an East Coast Communist newspaper.

T-2, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on May 2, 1956, that on April 27, 1956, subject was in touch with the Committee to End Sedition Laws, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

T-1 advised on June 5, 1956, that on May 27, 1956, GORDON MONROE instructed that subject be extended an invitation to attend a party to be sponsored by the Kansas City Group of the Communist Party that was planned for Swope Park, Kansas City, Missouri, on June 9, 1956.

T-1 advised on June 27, 1956, that on June 19, 1956, subject attended a meeting held at the Paseo YMCA, Kansas City, Missouri, at which the speaker was CARL MARZANI. MARZANI stated at the meeting he was being sponsored in a speaking tour by the Liberty Book Club. T-1 further stated subject made a \$1.00 contribution at the conclusion of MARZANI's lecture.

CARL MARZANI, according to the May 1, 1956, edition of the Liberty Book Club News, was on a speaking

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

KC 100-1717

tour. MARZANI was identified in this issue as the Executive Vice President of the Liberty Book Club.

MARZANI, on May 22, 1947, after a trial in U. S. District Court, Washington, D. C., was found guilty on all eleven counts of an indictment charging him with having made false statements to representatives of the U. S. Government concerning the fact that he was not a Communist Party member. Judgment was upheld, and on March 25, 1948, Judge RAYMOND B. KEECH, U. S. District Court, Washington, D. C., committed MARZANI to serve the remainder of his one to three year sentence in a Federal Penitentiary.

MARZANI refused to answer all questioning concerning past or present Communist Party membership on June 18, 1953, before a public session of the Senate Sub-Committee on Internal Security.

On June 19, 1956, Special Agents of the FBI observed subject at a meeting held at the Paseo YMCA, at which time the speaker was CARL MARZANI. Among those attending were JOHN and BEVERLY SAGE.

T-1 advised on June 27, 1956, that JOHN and BEVERLY SAGE were members of the Communist Party in Kansas City.

T-1 advised on July 18, 1956, that on July 15, 1956, MARION SIMMONS advised she had sent subject a letter and undisclosed literature to read, and indicated she intended to visit with subject at the latter's home on July 22, 1956.

On July 18, 1956, T-1 advised that MARION SIMMONS has been meeting with Communist Party members in the Kansas City area for the past several months, and that her Communist Party dues were \$5.00 per month.

T-1 advised on July 23, 1956, that on July 22, 1956, MARION SIMMONS visited subject at the latter's

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

KC 100-1717

farm

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

T-1 advised on February 14, 1957, that on January 29, 1957, GORDON MONROE gave to BEVERLY SAGE a list of names of persons to be invited by the Kansas City Communist Party Groups to an open study meeting on Socialistic doctrines, among which was the name of the subject.

- C -

-4-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

KC 100-1717

APPENDIX

COMMITTEE TO END SEDITION LAWS

A Confidential Informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on February 3, 1955, that the Committee to End Sedition Laws was established in November, 1954, at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, by ALLAN D. MC NEIL, District No. 5, Communist Party member. The main objective of the Committee was the abolition of all Sedition Laws.

KC 100-1717

APPENDIX

THE LIBERTY BOOK CLUB

A Confidential Informant, who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on December 9, 1948, that he had been told by a Communist Party organizer that a group of Progressives and Communists, at the suggestion of the New York State Committee of the Communist Party, decided to form a new book club to give wide circulation to the works of Communists' and Progressives' writers. The book club so formed was the Liberty Book Club, which is presently located at 100 West 23rd Street, New York City, having moved December, 1953, from 1123 Broadway, New York City.

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity And/or Description of Information</u>	<u>Date Received</u>	<u>Agent to whom Furnished</u>	<u>File Number where Located</u>
T-1 is [redacted]	Residence and Employment of Subject			Instant report
"	3/28/56 ✓			[redacted]
"	5/27/56 ✓			
"	6/19/56 ✓			
"	7/15/56 ✓			
"	7/22/56 ✓			
"	8/13/56 ✓			
"	1/29/57 ✓			
Used to characterize GORDON MONROE				
Used to characterize JOHN and BEVERLY SAGE				
Used to characterize MARION SIMMONS				

T-2 is [redacted]	4/27/56 ✓			100-1717-201
[redacted]	used to characterize Committee to End Sedition Laws.			
[redacted]	used to characterize the Liberty Book Club.			

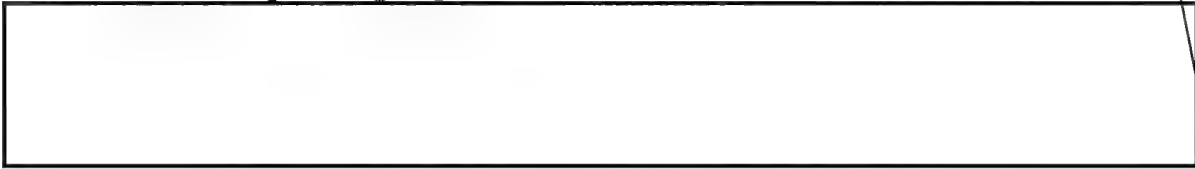
One copy is being designated to the Los Angeles Office for information purposes inasmuch as subject during each year makes a temporary residence at Long Beach, California.

Careful consideration has been given in each instance where T symbols have been used in this report. They were used only in those instances where it was deemed absolutely necessary.

Subject is a Security Index Subject of the Kansas City Office. This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index Criteria, and it is felt that subject continues to fit the criteria.

KC 100-1717

Subject's SI card has been reviewed, and the information reflected thereon is correct and current. A suitable photograph is maintained in the file.



Special Agents engaged in the physical surveillance on June 19, 1956, were SAs D. J. WILLIAMS, RICHARD H. ASH and ROBERT G. BURKE.

REFERENCE

Report of SA D. J. WILLIAMS dated 3/5/56 at Kansas City.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-354572) DATE: 2/12/58

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SM - C
Kansas City - OriginCard U.T.D.
FEB 25 1958

It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

xx The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME _____

ALIASES _____

NATIVE BORN _____ NATURALIZED _____ ALIEN _____

COMMUNIST _____ SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY _____ INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE _____

MISCELLANEOUS (Specify) _____

TAB FOR DETCOM _____ TAB FOR COMSAB _____ RACE _____ SEX _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) _____

100-354572-

NOT RECORDED
7 FEB 17 1958

KEY FACILITY DATA:

GEOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE NUMBER _____ RESPONSIBILITY _____

INTERESTED AGENCIES _____

RESIDENCE ADDRESS → Route 2, Spring Hill, Ks., (permanent)

Island View Apartments, Apt. 22, at 841 W.

Seaside Blvd., Long Beach, Calif. (temporarily
~~on vacation until 4/1/58.~~)65 FEB 26 1958
(3)

Registered Mail

SUBV CONTROL
Ad. Leonard

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-354572)

DATE: 4/2/58

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SM - C

Card U.T.D.

4-11-58
an

☐ It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

☒ The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (specify change only):

Name		
Aliases		
☐ Native Born	☐ Naturalized	☐ Alien
☐ Communist	☐ Socialist Workers Party	☐ Independent Socialist League
☐ Miscellaneous (specify) _____		
☐ Tab for Detcom	Race	Sex ☐ Male ☐ Female
Date of Birth	Place of Birth	
Business Address (show name of employing concern and address)		
Key Facility Data		
Geographical Reference Number		Responsibility
Interested Agencies		
Residence Address		
Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas		

REGISTERED MAIL

hmg

(3)

REGISTERED MAIL

APR 11 1958

RECEIVED

NOT RECORDED

APR 4 1958

SUBV CONTROL

ack 4/11/58

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office KANSAS CITY	Office of Origin KANSAS CITY	Date 4/11/58	Investigative Period 4/7/58
TITLE OF CASE OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON		Report made by SA L. KEITH WILLIAMS	Typed By: nk
		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

Synopsis:

Subject continues to reside at Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas, and is self-employed as a farmer. Confidential informants advise subject has continued association with Communists in the Kansas City area and subject contributed to the Powell-Schuman Defense Fund.

-C-

DETAILS:

BACKGROUND

RESIDENCE AND EMPLOYMENT:

On April 7, 1958, T-1 advised that subject resides at Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas, where he is self-employed as a farmer.

Approved <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: ④-Bureau (100-354572)(RM) 1-Los Angeles (100-26413) (Info.)(RM) 3-Kansas City (100-1717)		100-354572-30	REC-19
		APR 14 1958	
		EX-128	

66 APR 18 1958

COPIES DESTROYED

44 OCT 25 1962

AGENCY *RAB*
REC'D
DATE FORW. *4-12-58*
HOW FORW. *0-6*
BY *[Signature]*

SUB CONTROL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Property of FBI — This report is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

ACTIVITIES:

The Communist Party, United States of America, has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

T-1 advised on March 3, 1957, that subject's name was contained in the list of names of persons to be solicited by the Communist Party group of Kansas City to attend a series of lectures on Socialism, to commence March 20, 1957.

T-1 advised on June 28, 1957, that on June 26, 1957, subject was sent a written invitation to attend a meeting sponsored by the Kansas City group of the Communist Party at the mission of REUBEN BLACKBURN, 601 Osage, Kansas City, Kansas. T-1 advised on June 28, 1957, that REUBEN BLACKBURN is a member of the Kansas City group of the Communist Party and holds the position of librarian for the group.

T-2 advised on July 2, 1957, that subject made a \$5.00 contribution to the Powell-Schuman Defense Fund on June 10, 1957.

Mr. EDWIN H. HEIMER, Western Employers Service, Incorporated, 995 Market Street, San Francisco, California, advised on September 25, 1956, that JOHN WILLIAM POWELL in August, 1956, had informed him that the Powell-Schuman Defense Fund had recently been organized to collect money to defray the expenses for himself, SYLVIA POWELL and JULIAN SCHUMAN in connection with their forthcoming trial for violation of the Sedition Laws of the United States. Mr. HEIMER also stated that POWELL mentioned that CHARLES MATTOX was the treasurer of this organization.

The records of the United States District Court, San Francisco, California, reflect that on April 25, 1956, The Federal Grand Jury, San Francisco, California, returned an indictment charging JOHN and SYLVIA POWELL of San Francisco, and JULIAN SCHUMAN of New York, with Sedition and/or Conspiracy to commit Sedition. The indictment charged that the POWELLS and SCHUMAN, while associated with the "China Monthly Review", Shanghai, China,

KC 100-1717

from 1950 to 1953, caused to be printed in this magazine false statements, which among other things accused the United States of conducting germ warfare in Korea.

The defendants have not as yet been tried on these charges.

¹⁹⁴⁴
T-3 advised on April 11, 1944, that CHARLES MATTOX was then a member of the Echo Park Branch, Midtown Section, Los Angeles County Communist Party.

1956 - TREASURER - POWELL - SCHUMAN DEFENSE FUND

The "Daily Worker" was an East Coast Communist newspaper which suspended publication on January 13, 1958.

"Political Affairs" is the official monthly theoretical organ of the Communist Party, USA, according to the testimony of ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, self-admitted member of the Communist Party, USA, on October 20, 1952, in connection with the trial of the United States versus ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, ETAL.

T-1 advised on October 23, 1957, that EUGENE JOHNSON is the leading member of the Communist Party in Kansas City, Kansas, and is in charge of literature distribution in the Greater Kansas City area.

T-1 advised on October 23, 1958, that JAMES WRIGHT is a former member of the Communist Party in Texas and now regularly meets with the Kansas City group of the Communist Party.

On December 21, 1957, T-1 advised that on December 16, 1957, MARTHELLA WARD was advised by EUGENE JOHNSON that when she took up her residence in Los Angeles, California, that she should put herself in touch with

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

KC 100-1717

subject at his temporary residence in Long Beach, California. He would in turn put her in touch with persons holding Communist views in that area.

T-1 advised on December 21, 1957, that MARTHELLA WARD was a regular participant in meetings of the Committee on Socialist Unity, which according to informant was organized, controlled and dominated by the Kansas City group of the Communist Party.

CALIF.
KANSAS

On April 7, 1958, T-1 advised that subject has not been seriously encouraged to actively affiliate with the Kansas City group of the Communist Party because they consider his views to be so radical that he is difficult to control and discipline in his activities in behalf of Communism.

-C-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

-4-

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-354572)

DATE: 4/11/58

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SM - C

00 - Kansas City

Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies of report of SA L. KEITH WILLIAMS, dated 4/11/58, at Kansas City and four copies of letter head memorandum.

Enclosed for Los Angeles is one copy of above report and one copy of letter head memorandum.

REFERENCE

Report of SA L. KEITH WILLIAMS, dated 3/22/57, at Kansas City

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	File Where Located
T-1 is [redacted]	Employment, residence of subject	Instant report
"	3/3/57	[redacted]
"	6/26/57	
"	10/21/57	
"	12/16/57	
"	Subject's status with party	

Used to characterize REUBEN BLACKBURN, EUGENE JOHNSON and JAMES WRIGHT

2-Bureau (Enc. 8)(100-354572)(RM)
1-Los Angeles (Enc. 2)(100-26413)(RM)
3-Kansas City (100-1717)

66 APR 18 1958

ENCLOSURE

EX-128

EX-128

APR 14 1958

SUBV CONTROL

KC 100-1717

<u>Identity of Source</u>	<u>Date of Activity and/or Description of Information</u>	<u>File Where Located</u>
T-2 is EDMUND J. LEVERONI, Manager Columbia Avenue Branch, American Trust Company, San Francisco	6/10/57	100-1717-228
T-3 is 	4/11/44	100-1717-228

LEADSLOS ANGELES: (INFORMATION)

An informational copy of this report is being designated for Los Angeles, inasmuch as subject spends the winter each year at Long Beach, California.

KC 100-1717

1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
5. ☒ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____
7. ☒ This report is classified confidential because (state reason)

it contains information received from confidential informants, the disclosure of which would jeopardize their security and adversely affect the national ~~security.~~
defense.
8. ☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason)
9. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)

subject is a dedicated Communist who continues to support the CP program and front causes; circulate and purchase literature.

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Kansas City 6, Missouri**

April 11, 1958

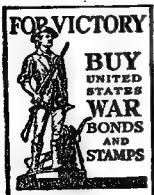
**Re: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SECURITY MATTER - C**

T-1 through T-3, whose identities are concealed in report of Special Agent L. KEITH WILLIAMS, dated April 11, 1958, at Kansas City, have furnished reliable information in the past.

This memorandum is loaned to you for your information and should not be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

KC 100-1717.

AGENCY RAB
REQ. REC'D
DATE FORW. 4-12-58
HOW FORW. 0-6
BY J. H. / W. W.



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44 OCT 25 1962**

100-354672-31
ENCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-354572)

DATE: 1/7/59

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-26113)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SM-C

OO: . KANSAS CITY

Reference Kansas City letter to Los Angeles,
dated December 17, 1958.

On January 6, 1959, it was ascertained from ROBERT POTTHAFF, manager of the Island View Apartments, 841 West Seaside Boulevard, Long Beach, California, that captioned is presently residing there in apartment 20. Mr. POTTHAFF also advised the captioned is apparently retired, inasmuch as he spends his days playing "shuffle board" on the apartment courts.

Logical informants who are familiar with some phases of CP activity in the Long Beach area, contacted January 5 and 7, 1959, advised that they had no knowledge of captioned activities, if any, in the CP movement.

In view of the foregoing, Kansas City is requested to submit Form FD 128.

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - Kansas City (100-1717)
- 1 - Los Angeles

EDT:jds
(4)

REC-32

100-354572-32
24 JAN 13 1959

EX-135

SUBV. CONTROL

57 JAN 16 1959

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (100-354572)

DATE: 1/14/59

FROM : SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SM - C
Kansas City - 00

Re Los Angeles letter to Bureau 1/7/59.

Enclosed to Bureau are two copies of FD-122 and 1 copy is being furnished Los Angeles for information.

In view of the fact that information is in possession of the Kansas City Office that subject intends to return to his permanent address in Kansas City Division by approximately 4/1/59, FD-128, changing Office of Origin is not being submitted.

FD-122 is being submitted to reflect the Long Beach, California, address as a temporary address.

In the event information comes to the attention of the Los Angeles Office relative to subject returning to Kansas City, Los Angeles is requested to advise Kansas City. Likewise, Kansas City will notify Los Angeles of his return to permanent address in Kansas.

2 - Bureau (encl. 2) (RM)
2 - Los Angeles (100-26113) (encl. 1) (RM)
1 - Kansas City
LKW/hmg
(5)

REC-132

100-354572-33

12 JAN 16 1959

2 ENCLOSURE

53 JAN 20 1959

SUB. CONTROL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-354572)

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-26113)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SM - C

DATE: 4/9/59

OO: KANSAS CITY

Re Kansas City letter to Bureau, 1/14/59.

Mr. ROBERT POTTHOFF, Manager of the Island View Apartments, 841 West Seaside Blvd., Long Beach, California, on 4/7/59 advised that captioned subject left Long Beach on 3/26/59, stating an intention to return to his farm in Kansas.

X Johnson
According to Mr. POTTHOFF, subject's wife and son, ROBERT, also departed Long Beach with subject. The latter stated he had given up his job on the West Coast and would, in the future, be helping his father and mother on the farm.

The following logical informants [redacted] and [redacted] were contacted 4/6/59, and [redacted] on 4/7/59, each of whom is familiar with the CP movement in the Long Beach area, but neither had any knowledge of OTIS JOHNSON's current sympathies or CP activities.

Inasmuch as Long Beach, California is not a permanent address, an FD-122 is being submitted by Los Angeles. *Kansas City*
Should verify and submit FD-122.

- 2 - Bureau (REGISTERED)
- 1 - Kansas City (Info) (100-1717)
- 1 - Los Angeles

EDT:jse
(4)

REC-77

100-354572

12 APR 13 1959

50 APR 15 1959

EX 105

SUBV. CONTROL 134

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FC
4/22

Reporting Office KANSAS CITY	Office of Origin KANSAS CITY	Date 4-17-59	Investigative Period 4-4-59; 4-9-59
TITLE OF CASE OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON		Report made by L. KEITH WILLIAMS	Typed By: JC
		CHARACTER OF CASE SECURITY MATTER - C	

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent L. KEITH WILLIAMS
dated April 11, 1958, at Kansas City, Missouri. ✓

WLL

- C -

Approved <i>[Signature]</i>	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below	
Copies made: 4 - Bureau (100-354572) (Registered) 1 - Los Angeles (100-26113) (Information) (Registered) 3 - Kansas City (100-1717) ✓ 63 APR 28 1959 AGENCY <u>PAB</u> REQ. REC'D DATE FORW. <u>4/28/59</u> HOW FORW. <u>0-6</u> BY <u>L &</u>		100-354572-35	REC-77
		18 APR 20 1959	EX-135
		168 55 d 18 LW 22	
		OBSERVATION CONTROL REC'D CONTROL SUBV. CONTROL <i>[Signature]</i>	

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KC 100-1717

INFORMANTS:

Identity of SourceFile Where Located

KC T-1 is [REDACTED]

Instant report
(Employment and Residence)
[REDACTED]

Used to characterize
Eugene Johnson, Jerome
Pearson, and the Eugene
V. Debbs Council of
Kansas City

KC T-2 is Hiram Walker,
assistant manager,
Columbus Avenue Branch,
American Trust Company
San Francisco, California
(by request)

100-1717-253

KC T-3 is [REDACTED]

100-1717-228

KC T-4 is [REDACTED]

KC T-5 is Stephen K. Louie,
(by request),
administrative assistant
Translation Section,
U. S. Customs,
San Francisco, California

100-1717-258

ADMINISTRATIVE:

An information copy of this report is being
designated for Los Angeles inasmuch as subject spends
the winters of each year in Long Beach, California.

A.

(COVER PAGE)

1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2. ☐ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3. ☒ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
5. ☒ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____
7. ☒ This report is classified confidential because (state reason)

it contains data reported from T-1, T-2, T-3, T-4, and T-5 which could reasonably result in identification of confidential informants of continuing value and compromise future effectiveness thereof.

8. ☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason)

9. ☐ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. ☒ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)

subject is a dedicated Communist who continues to support the program of the Communist Party and front causes, to purchase literature, and to air his Communist sympathies to the public.

B.

(COVER PAGE)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to:

Report of: L. KEITH WILLIAMS Office: KANSAS CITY
Date: 4-17-59 -
File Number: KC 100-1717, Bufile 100-354572
Title: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis:

Subject resides on Rural Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas, and continues to be self-employed as a farmer. Confidential informants report that subject continues to associate with Communists in the Kansas City area, 'subscribe to Communist literature, and express pro-Communist views.'

- C -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of any kind. It is the property of the FBI, and is a loan to your agency; it and/or its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

16-74625-1 GPO

KC 100-1717

DETAILS:

BACKGROUND

Residence and Employment

KC T-1 advised on April 4, 1959, that subject resides on Rural Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas, and is self-employed as a farmer.

Credit and Criminal

FLORENCE STEWART, clerk, Credit Bureau of Greater Kansas City, which bureau covers Spring Hill, Kansas, advised on April 4, 1959, subject has a satisfactory credit record with that bureau.

Deputy Sheriff ROMANO JONES, Johnson County Sheriff's Office, which office covers Spring Hill, Kansas, advised on April 9, 1959, that records of that department do not reflect any record identifiable with subject.

COMMUNIST AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

The Communist Party of the United States of America has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

KC T-1 advised on April 22, 1958, that on April 8, 1958, a copy of the bulletin announcing the formation of the Eugene V. Debbs Council was mailed to the subject, inviting him to participate in its activities.

KC T-1 advised on January 16, 1958, that on January 13, 1958, the Eugene V. Debbs Council of Kansas City was organized for the purpose of providing lectures, literature, and a meeting place for persons interested in Socialism. KC T-1 stated this organization was instigated and is dominated by Communist Party members from the Kansas City area who are utilizing Communist literature in the program of this organization.

KC 100-1717

KC T-2 advised on June 2, 1958, that on May 15, 1958, subject made a \$3 contribution to the Powell-Schuman Defense Fund.

Mr. EDWIN H. HEIMER, Western Employers Service, Incorporated, 995 Market Street, San Francisco, California, advised on September 25, 1956, that JOHN WILLIAM POWELL in August, 1956, informed him that the Powell-Schuman Defense Fund had been recently organized to collect money to defray expenses for himself, SYLVIA POWELL, and JULIAN SCHUMAN in connection with their forthcoming trial for violation of the sedition laws of the United States. Mr. HEIMER also stated POWELL mentioned that CHARLES MATTOX was treasurer of this organization.

The records of the United States District Court, San Francisco, California, reflect that on April 25, 1956, an indictment was returned by the Federal Grand Jury, San Francisco, California, charging JOHN and SYLVIA POWELL, of San Francisco, and JULIAN SCHUMAN, of New York City, with sedition and/or conspiracy to commit sedition. The indictment charged that the POWELLS and SCHUMAN while associated with the "China Monthly Review", Shanghai, China, from 1950 to 1953 caused to be printed in this magazine false statements, which among other things accused the United States of conducting germ warfare.

The defendants were brought to trial in Federal District Court, San Francisco, California, on January 26, 1959. On January 30, 1959, a mistrial was declared in this case, following which the defendants were charged with treason in connection with their activities during the course of the Korean war.

The defendants have not as yet been tried on these charges.

KC T-3 advised on April 11, 1944, that CHARLES MATTOX was then a member of the Echo Park Branch, Mid-town Section, Los Angeles County Communist Party.

KC 100-1717

KC T-1 advised on September 5, 1958, that on this date EUGENE JOHNSON, subject's son, obtained a subscription to the "Worker" for subject.

The "Worker" is an east coast Communist weekly newspaper.

KC T-1 advised on September 5, 1958, that EUGENE JOHNSON was a member of the Kansas City group of the Communist Party.

On September 25, 1958, JOHN HERRINGTON, Radio Station WDAF, Kansas City, Missouri, made available a letter to the Kansas City Office received by MEL MAINES, newscaster at the broadcasting station, from subject dated September 24, 1958, in which subject was extremely critical of news releases broadcasted by MAINES concerning the Formosa straits crisis. Subject informed in his letter he considered the Chinese Communists to be legally right in this controversy.

KC T-4 advised on October 10, 1958, that during September, 1958, subject received a request to renew his subscription to the "Peking Review".

KC T-5 advised that the "Peking Review" is a pro-Chinese Communist publication.

On October 28, 1958, ROBERT HIGBY, announcer, Radio Station WDAF, Kansas City, Missouri, received a letter from subject dated October 27, 1958, which he made available to the Kansas City Office. Subject in his letter criticized HIGBY for HIGBY's broadcast of a report concerning the Chinese Communist hit parade. Subject accused HIGBY of representing the position of enslavers and exploiters, and slobbering, hypocritical Christianity. Subject informed HIGBY that China under the leadership of Mao Tse Tung is on the road to great achievement.

KC T-1 advised on November 25, 1958, that on November 21, 1958, JEROME PEARSON requested subject to contribute \$5 per month to the Communist Party in Kansas City. Subject told PEARSON his financial position was "bad"; consequently, he could not afford to make this contribution.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

KC 100-1717

KC T-1 advised on November 21, 1958, that JEROME PEARSON is a member of the Kansas City group of the Communist Party.

-5*-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

KC 100-1717

Kansas City, Missouri
April 17, 1959

OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SECURITY MATTER - C

T-1 through T-5, whose identities are concealed in the report of Special Agent L. KEITH WILLIAMS dated April 17, 1959, at Kansas City, Missouri, have furnished reliable information in the past.

This memorandum is loaned to you for your information and should not be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office KANSAS CITY	Office of Origin KANSAS CITY	Date 4/14/60	Investigative Period 2/19 - 4/13/60
TITLE OF CASE OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON		Report made by SA ROBERT E. KENT	Typed By: CW
		CHARACTER OF CASE SM - C	

REFERENCE:

Report of SA L. KEITH WILLIAMS, dated 4/17/59 at Kansas City.
Kansas City letter to Los Angeles, dated 3/25/60. (inter-office)

- P -

LEADS: LOS ANGELES DIVISION: (INFORMATION)

Leads are currently outstanding in the Los Angeles Office per referenced letter. One copy of this report is furnished for the assistance of the Los Angeles Office and as subject spends the winters of each year in Long Beach, California.

KANSAS CITY DIVISION:

AT KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

~~Will follow authorization of removal of Security Index~~

Approved ☒ Card by the Bureau.

Special Agent
In Charge

Do not write in spaces below

Copies made:

4 - Bureau (100-354572)

(REGISTERED MAIL)

1 - Los Angeles (100-26113)

(Info) (REGISTERED MAIL)

3 - Kansas City (100-1717)

100-354572-36 REC-21

APR 18 1960

RECEIVED

SEC. 1 - FBI

SUBV. CONTROL

Copy to RAB
by routing slip for
☒ info ☐ action
date 4-21-60
by JAG/baw

This report is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

KC 100-1717

INFORMANTS:

Identity of Source

T-1 is

[REDACTED]

Characterizes EUGENE JOHNSON
JEROME PEARSON

T-2 is

[REDACTED]

T-3 is

[REDACTED]

File Where Located

Residence, employment
and status of health,
instant report

[REDACTED]

100-1717-265

B.
(COVER PAGE)

1. ☒ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2. ☒ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
5. ☒ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and _____ is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____
7. ☒ This report is classified Confidential because (state reason)

It contains data reported from T-1 and T-2 which could reasonably result in identification of these current, active, confidential informants to the detriment of the internal security of the United States.

8. ☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason)

9. ☒ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. ☐ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)

11. ☒ Subject's SI card ☐ is ☒ is not tabbed Detcom.
☒ His activities ☐ do ☒ do not warrant Detcom tabbing.

C*
(COVER PAGE)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Copy to:

Report of: SA ROBERT E. KENT
Date: 4/14/60

Office: Kansas City

File Number: KC 100-1717; Bufile 100-354572

Title: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis: Subject continues to reside at RR #2, Spring Hill, Kansas, and to be self-employed as a farmer. Confidential informants report subject made contribution to "The Worker" fund drive and was subscriber to "The Worker" in 1959. In June 1959, subject reportedly purchased copy of "New World Review".

- P -

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of any kind. It is the property of the FBI, and is a loan to your agency; it and/or its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

16-74625-1 GPO

KC 100-1717

DETAILS:

BACKGROUND

Employment:

On April 6, 1960, KC T-1 advised that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON was currently self-employed as a farmer at his farm located Rural Route #2, Spring Hill, Kansas.

Residence;

On December 10, 1958, KC T-2 advised OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON departed Kansas City November 24, 1958, to reside at Island View Apartments, 841 West Seaside Boulevard, Long Beach, California. JOHNSON was expected to remain at this address until March 1959.

On April 7, 1959, Mr. ROBERT POTTHOFF, Manager, Island View Apartments, Long Beach, California, advised that the subject, his wife and his son ROBERT departed Long Beach, California, March 26, 1959, stating intention to return to his farm in Kansas.

On April 2, 1959, KC T-1 advised that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON had returned to his residence at his farm, Rural Route #2, Spring Hill, Kansas.

On February 19, 1960, and March 21, 1960, KC T-1 advised that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON was currently spending his winter vacation at Island View Apartments, Long Beach, California. The subject was not currently employed and was expected to return to his farm approximately April 1, 1960.

On April 6, 1960, KC T-1 advised that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON was currently residing at his farm in Spring Hill, Kansas.

Status of Health:

On April 6, 1960, KC T-1 advised that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON was 75 years of age and due to advanced age was not in good health. KC T-1 stated JOHNSON would be unable to handle his farm work alone in the future or for more than the next season.

KC 100-1717

CONNECTION WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY

The Communist Party - USA, its subdivisions, subsidiaries and affiliates have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to the Executive Order 10450.

Miscellaneous:

On April 15, 1959, KC T-1 advised that as of April 6, 1959, JEROME (JERRY) PEARSON, in connection with a current fund drive on behalf of "The Worker" made the suggestion that a number of persons be contacted for contributions to this fund drive as well as to the Communist Party. Among the persons named by PEARSON in this regard was OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON.

On April 15, 1959, KC T-1 identified JERRY PEARSON as currently active in the Communist Party group in Kansas City, Missouri, and as having been active in Communist Party affairs for some years.

"The Worker" is an east coast Communist weekly newspaper.

On April 22, 1959, KC T-1 advised he had learned from [redacted] that on April 19, 1959, EUGENE JOHNSON and JERRY PEARSON visited the subject at his farm at Spring Hill, Kansas.

[redacted]

On April 22, 1959, KC T-1 identified EUGENE JOHNSON as currently active in the Communist Party group in Kansas City, Missouri.

On May 29, 1959, KC T-3 advised the name OTIS W. JOHNSON, Springhill, Kansas, was indicated among the names and addresses of current subscribers maintained by "The Worker", 23 West 26 Street, New York City.

KC 100-1717

On June 22, 1959, KC T-1 advised that OTIS W. JOHNSON recently purchased a copy of "New World Review" from [REDACTED] A characterization of "New World Review" appears in the appendix hereto.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APPENDIX

"New World Review"

The Guide to Subversive Organizations and Publications, House Document 226, revised and published as of January 2, 1957, by the Committee on Un-American Activities, U. S. House of Representatives on page 106, reflects New World Review cited as an organization specializing in pro-Soviet propaganda. It was formerly known as Soviet Russia Today.

(Internal Security Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Handbook for Americans, Senate Document 117, April 23, 1944, page 76).

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

*In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.* **100-1717**

**Kansas City, Missouri
April 14, 1960**

**OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SECURITY MATTER - C**

**Confidential informants whose identities
are concealed in report of SA ROBERT E. KENT, dated
April 14, 1960, at Kansas City, Missouri, have
furnished reliable information in the past.**

**This memorandum is loaned to you for your
information and should not be distributed
outside the agency to which loaned.**

Jackson

SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

April 26, 1960

Director, FBI (100-354572)-37

EX-107 REC-16

OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SECURITY MATTER - C

Reurlet dated 4-14-60 wherein you recommended that the subject's name be deleted from the Security Index based on his age and alleged poor health.

A review of investigation to date reveals that this subject continues to actively support the Communist Party in the area of Kansas City by making frequent donations to the Party and its affiliates. In addition, it is noted that this subject continues to travel to his summer home in Long Beach, California, and despite his so-called advanced years, continues to be quite active on behalf of the Communist Party. In view of the above, the Bureau is of the opinion that the subject's name should be retained in the Security Index at this time. In the future, should the subject's health status change to the point where he is physically incapacitated on a permanent basis, you should at that time reconsider this case and submit your recommendations relative to his Security Index status.

NOTE: Subject white male, age 75. Is in SI. Subject is a farmer, reportedly well-to-do, and through the years has been quite active in behalf of the CP in the area of Kansas City and is looked upon by the Party as a so-called "financial angel." In addition, subject has carried on through the years correspondence with various congressmen and senators from the State of Kansas wherein he has been most vitriolic in his attacks against the U.S. Government as contrasted with that of the Soviet Union. Subject has been active in attendance in behalf of cited organizations such as the American Russian Institute and Civil Rights Congress, and has contributed financially to the Smith Act subjects in St. Louis. There is no indication in the file that this subject is in poor health. To the contrary, he continues to maintain two residences, one in Long Beach, California, and one in Kansas, and only recently returned to his farm from California.

JAJ:baw
(4)

APR 27 2 57 PM '60

APR 27 1960

64 APR 27

TELETYPE UNIT

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-354572)

DATE: 4/14/60

FROM : SAC, KANSAS CITY (100-1717)

SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SM - C
OO: Kansas City*Putain in ST
JFB/104*

Reference report of SA ROBERT E. KENT, dated 4/14/60 at Kansas City.

Subject, age 75 years, continues to reside at Rural Route #2, Spring Hill, Kansas, and is occupied as a farmer. A confidential informant has advised that due to his advanced age, the subject is not in good health. The informant stated JOHNSON would no longer be able to operate his farm in the future or for more than the next season.

Investigation of the subject to date has failed to establish past or present Communist Party membership.

In the past five years, the subject's reported subversive activities have consisted of a limited degree of the following activities:

Subscription and receipt of Communist publications and contributions to Communist fronts. Subject has had contacts by Communist Party members and on one occasion, corresponded with a newscaster defending the position of Communist China as opposed to the United States.

In 1958, a confidential informant reported subject was not encouraged to affiliate with the Kansas City Communist Party as his views were considered too radical and he was not considered subject to discipline and control.

Prior investigation reflected the subject as sympathetic to Socialism and Communism since early youth and prior to 1941, he was reported sympathetic to the Communist government of Russia. Subject has contributed

2 - Bureau (100-354572) (REGISTERED MAIL)
1 - Kansas City (100-1717)

REK:cw
(3)

REC-98

APR 18 1960

SUBV CONTROL

EX-107

*Let to KC
4/26/60
JFB/104*

KC 100-1717

to various Communist fronts and publications and has been a prolific correspondent evidencing sympathy to the Russian form of government. In 1949 the subject, in conversation, reportedly praised Russian and stated he would help Russia in the event of war with the United States.



It is recommended that the subject be deleted from the Security Index.

Beagle

(5)

Refer to 8411

Spring

May 1960

OFFICE OF SECURITY
SERVICES DIV.
JUN 2 - 1960
DIVISION OF PHYSICAL SECURITY

Mr. Christian Herter:

Sir;

1960 JUN 1 AM 10 11

The idea that Khrushchov has lost prestige in the eyes of peace minded people world wide is a sample of bourgeois wishful thinking.---If you are under the delusion that our people are all behind our Power Elite in their mad struggle for worle domination, you too are as mad as one can get.---The most intelligent ones among the working class see in U.S.imperialism are a far greater menace to humanity than the German imperialist who put Hitler on the throne and delueged the world with blood.---This Wall St. gang of cut-throats has no parallel in six thousand years of history.---Mr. K nailed you to your Christian cross and proved to the world what Liars and hypocrites you are.---Farmers know this ,read the history of labor and it shows these capitalist have always readily contributed to the misery of our own people,now you think we workers are going to defend you money-bags.---The tide of world opinion is changing,look at So.Korea, Japan.Cuba and now Turkey. I would say to the exploiting dirty rich,"You have seen nothing yet".---You seem to thing it smart to fly planes over nations.I wonder if Powers thinks so now.---You are a crippled old man an like old Ike you are not concerned about the lives of young men.---

When you were given that first name I doubt if any one thought what a joke it would turn out to be. 100-354572-

NOT RECORDED

Your's for PEAD JUN 13 1960

DEPARTMENT OF STATE	
JUN 21 1960	
OFFICE OF SECURITY	
NOT TO BE FILED W/O INITIALS	

COPY TO THE FBI

Otis Wm. Johnson (Farmer)

JUN 6 1960

Photostat
by routing slip for
☒ info ☐ action
date 6-10-60
9/12/1/aw

LAISON

Higgins

SAC, Kansas City (100-1717)

April 7, 1961

Director, FBI (100-354572) - ³⁸ ~~11~~ ADV

APR 11 1961

Security Index card cancelled
4/10/61
Higgins

EX-102 OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SECURITY MATTER - C

CANCELLED

By letter dated 3-31-61 the Department advised that the subject's name should be removed from the Security Index. This action has been taken at the Bureau and similar action should be taken with respect to the card maintained in your office.

It is noted that the last report in this case was submitted on 4-14-60. This case should be reopened and your investigation brought up to date. The results of your investigation should be submitted in report form suitable for dissemination, at which time, if warranted, you should submit your recommendation as to whether subject should be included in the Security Index.

1 - 100-398030 (EDP)

HPH:baw *baw*
(5)

4/9/61
01-K
HPH

100-398030-24121047 REC
FBI

APR 11 8 44 AM '61
RECEIVED

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

100-398030-

Tolson _____
Parsons _____
Mohr _____
Belmont _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
W.C. Sullivan _____
Tele. Room _____
Ingram _____
Gandy _____

MAILED 8
APR 7 - 1961
COMM-FBI

58 APR 14 1961

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

7107 *HPH* *5-1258* (cancel 5)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

~~SECRET~~

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation DATE: March 31 1961

Jwy FROM : J. Walter Yeagley
Assistant Attorney General, Internal Security Division

Security Index card cancelled

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY DETENTION PROGRAM

Re: Otis William Johnson
FBI#: 100-354572

File in
CC in 100-398030

Reports of investigation of the above have been reviewed

☐ as requested by you on _____

It has been determined that subject's name should be

☐ retained on security index; ☒ removed from security index.

Remarks:

REC-33

EX-102

100-354572-38

APR 3 1961

~~SECRET~~

SW ~~CONTROL~~

(Hegghel)

Let to Kansas City
4/7/61
WPH/baw
ID

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 100-398030-

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

From: SAC, KANSAS CITY(Your file # 100-1717)DATE: 6-9-61To: Director, FBI (Bufile and Serial
(Room No. 1258)100-354572SUBJECT: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
SM-CPost &
Destroy
#4

- ☐ 1. Bufiles reflect this case is delinquent. Give specific reason for delinquency.

- ☐ 2. Date ☐ letter. ☒ report ☒ submitted ☐ will be submitted 5/29/61

- ☐ 3. If valid reason exists for not submitting report at this time, state reason specifically and when report will be submitted

- ☒ 4. Status of investigation

- ☐ Sulet by
☐ 5. ☐ Surep

(Place reply hereon and return to Bureau. Note receipt and acknowledgment on top serial and file #)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 12 1961	
FBI - KANSAS CITY	

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office KANSAS CITY	Office of Origin KANSAS CITY	Date 5/29/61	Investigative Period 5/22/61
TITLE OF CASE OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON		Report made by SA WILLIAM G. BROOKHART	Typed By: mfm
		CHARACTER OF CASE SM - C	

XXXXXX
Synopsis:

REFERENCES:

Report of SA ROBERT E. KENT dated 4/14/60 at Kansas City.
Los Angeles letter to Kansas City dated 4/11/60 (inter-office).
New York letter to Kansas City dated 5/19/60 (inter-office).
Los Angeles letter to Kansas City dated 1/25/61 (inter-office).
Bulet to Kansas City dated 4/7/61.
New York letter to Kansas City dated 5/4/61, (inter-office).

- C -

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The yearly report in this matter has been delayed due to participation of Agent assigned this case in preparation of prosecutive summary report in Kansas City file 92-116, entitled "NICHOLAS CIVELLA, aka ANTI-RACKETEERING," which caused a backlog of other investigative matters requiring prior attention.

Approved	Special Agent In Charge	Do not write in spaces below			
Copies made: ④ - Bureau (100-354572) (RM) 1 - Kansas City (100-1717)					

KC 100-1717

Subject is not being recommended for inclusion in the Security Index because of his advanced age, ill health and inactivity in Communist Party affairs.

Subject is being included in the Reserve Index Section "B".

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source

KC T-1 is [REDACTED]

Location

Subject's residence, employment and status of health, included in instant report.

Communist Party informants, Long Beach, California area are:

Subject unknown to them, instant report.

KC T-2 is [REDACTED]

KC 100-1717-291,
KC 100-1717-307.

- B -
(COVER PAGE)

KC 100-1717

FOIA(b) (7) - (D)

1. ☐ Subject's name is included in the Security Index.
2. ☐ The data appearing on the Security Index card are current.
3. ☐ Changes on the Security Index card are necessary and Form FD-122 has been submitted to the Bureau.
4. ☒ A suitable photograph ☒ is ☐ is not available.
5. ☒ Careful consideration has been given to each source concealed and T symbols were utilized only in those instances where the identities of the sources must be concealed.
6. ☐ Subject is employed in a key facility and _____ is charged with security responsibility. Interested agencies are _____.
7. ☒ This report is classified Confidential because (state reason)

because it contains data from KC T-1 which could reasonably result in identification of this current, active informant to the detriment of the internal security of the United States.

8. ☐ Subject previously interviewed (dates) _____.
- ☒ Subject was not reinterviewed because (state reason) _____.

9. ☒ This case no longer meets the Security Index criteria and a letter has been directed to the Bureau recommending cancellation of the Security Index card.
10. ☐ This case has been re-evaluated in the light of the Security Index criteria and it continues to fall within such criteria because (state reason)

11. ☐ Subject's SI card ☐ is ☐ is not tabbed Detcom.
- ☐ Subject's activities ☐ do ☐ do not warrant Detcom tabbing.

- C* -
(COVER PAGE)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA WILLIAM G. BROOKHART Office: KANSAS CITY
Date: May 29, 1961
Field Office File No.: KC 100-1717 Bureau File No.: 100-354572
Title: OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON

Character: SECURITY MATTER - C

Synopsis: Subject continues to reside at Rural Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas, and is unemployed due to ill health and advanced age. Subject unknown to security informants, Long Beach California area. Subject in May, 1960 wrote critical letter to Secretary of State. Subject has attended one Communist Party meeting in the Kansas City area and is a subscriber to "The Worker".

- C -

DETAILS:

I. BACKGROUNDEmployment and Residence

The Los Angeles Division advised on April 11, 1960 that Mr. ROBERT POTTHOFF, Manager of the Island View Apartments, 841 West Seaside Boulevard, Long Beach, California, advised that OTIS JOHNSON had visited the West Coast residing at the Island View Apartments in Long Beach but had departed April 1, 1960 stating his intention to return home to Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas. (Mr. POTTHOFF advised this information on April 7, 1960).

KC T-1 advised on May 2, 1960 that subject continues to reside at his farm located on Route 2, Spring Hill, Kansas. KC T-1 advised that subject, who is age 77, continues to be in poor health due to his advanced age and arthritis. Subject

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

KC 100-1717

has placed his farm for sale due to his health and plans to hold a sale of his farm machinery on May 14, 1960.

KC T-1 advised on October 20, 1960 that subject continues to reside on his farm near Spring Hill, Kansas but expects to return to California for the winter and will probably leave Spring Hill, Kansas during late 1960.

The Los Angeles Division advised on January 25, 1961 that Mr. ROBERT POTTHOFF, Manager, Island View Apartments, 841 West Seaside Boulevard, Apartment Number 1, Long Beach, California, advised SA JOSEPH R. CONLON on January 3, 1961, that JOHNSON resides in Apartment Number 18 at this address and is not employed.

KC T-1 advised on April 27, 1961 that subject returned to the Kansas City, Missouri area from Long Beach, California on April 15, 1961 and is now residing on his farm near Spring Hill, Kansas. Subject is not employed and is not actively engaged in farming.

II. MEMBERSHIP or AFFILIATION with the
COMMUNIST PARTY, UNITED STATES
of AMERICAN (CP USA), and
KNOWLEDGE of AIMS and
PURPOSES

The CP USA, its subdivisions, subsidiaries and affiliations have been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

On April 11, 1960 the Los Angeles Division advised that security informants who are generally familiar with Communist Party (CP) activities in the Long Beach area advised that they had no knowledge of subject's activities if any in the CP movement at Long Beach, California.

KC T-1 advised on October 20, 1960 that subject in the recent past had written letters to the Olathe, Kansas News, the "National Guardian" and also addressed a letter to Russian Premier KHRUSHCHEV during his visit in the United States attending United Nation functions.

Characterization of the "National Guardian" is contained in the Appendix hereto.

KC 100-1717

The Los Angeles Division advised on January 25, 1961 that security informants who are familiar with CP members and activities in the Long Beach area advised that subject did not come to their attention during his stay in the Long Beach area.

On April 27, 1961 KC T-1 advised that subject made a contribution of \$5.00 to "The Worker" by check through the Kansas City CP group.

"The Worker" is an east coast CP weekly newspaper.

KC T-2 advised on April 26, 1960 that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON, Spring Hill, Kansas, is a subscriber to "The Worker," 23 West 26th Street, New York City. Subject's subscription to "The Worker" expired on September 14, 1959 and March 14, 1960.

On May 28, 1960 at Spring Hill, Kansas, subject addressed a letter to Mr. CHRISTIAN HERTER, Secretary of State, Washington, D. C., the details of which are set out below:

"Mr. Christian Herter:

"Sir;

"The idea that Khrushchov has lost prestige in the eyes of peace minded people world wide is a sample of bourgeois wishful thinking.---If you are under the delusion that our people are all behind our Power Elite in their mad struggle for worle domination, you too are as mad as one can get.---The most intelligent ones among the working class see in U.S. imperialism are a far greater menace to humanity than the German imperialist who put Hitler on the throne and delueged the world with blood.---This Wall St. gang of cut-throats has no parallel in six thousand years of history.---Mr. K nailed you to your Christian cross and proved to the world what Liars and hypocrites you are.---Farmers know this ,read the history of labor and it shows these capitalist have always readily contributed to the misery of our own people,now you think we workers are going

KC 100-1717

"to defend you money-bags.---The tide of world opinion is changing, look at So. Korea, Japan, Cuba and now Turkey. I would say to the exploiting dirty rich, "You have seen nothing yet".---You seem to think it smart to fly planes over nations. I wonder if Powers thinks so now.---You are a crippled old man an like old Ike you are not concerned about the lives of young men.---

"When you were given that first name I doubt if any one thought what a joke it would turn out to be.

"your's for PEACE

"/s/ Otis Wm. Johnson (farmer)."

On November 12, 1960 KC T-1 advised that subject attended a meeting of the Kansas City Communist group on November 10, 1960 held at the residence of JOHN and BEVERLY SAGE, CP members, in Kansas City, Missouri.

RAY MILLER, CP member, gave a report on the results of the recent Presidential election. MILLER urged support for the Democratic Party, explaining he felt the Democratic Party presented more opportunity for work by the CP in political affairs. MILLER stated that the Democratic Party was more generally accepted as a working class party than the Republican Party.

Subject was accepted at this meeting although not a member of this group due to his past history of sympathy for the CP movement.

On March 31, 1961 KC T-2 advised that OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON, Spring Hill, Kansas, was a subscriber to "The Worker", 23 West 26th Street, New York City. Subject's subscription expired March 14, 1961 however it was renewed automatically for one year on the date of expiration.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
JAN 17 1963

KC 100-1717

APPENDIX

"NATIONAL GUARDIAN";
WEEKLY GUARDIAN ASSOCIATES, INCORPORATED

The 1949 report of the California Committee on Un-American Activities cited the "National Guardian" as a publication, launched in New York in 1948 aiming at national circulation, which it found to be from its inception notoriously Stalinist in its staff, writers, management and content. (1949 report of the California Senate Fact Finding Committee on Un-American Activities, page 394.)

The masthead of the "National Guardian," issue of May 14, 1956, reflects that it is published weekly by Weekly Guardian Associates, Incorporated, 197 East 4th Street, New York City.

5*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. KC 100-1717

Title	OTIS WILLIAM JOHNSON
Character	SECURITY MATTER - C
Reference	Report of SA WILLIAM G. BROOKHART, dated May 29, 1961 at Kansas City.

All sources (except any listed below) used in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.